



NOW A
HIT
ANIME
SERIES!

Dance in the
Wampire Bund

NOZOMU TAMAKI

VOLUME 8

Tamaki Nozomu Presents Dance In The Vampire Bund 8

DANCE IN THE VAMPIRE BUND

8

NOZOMU TAMAKI

この身を助けませとは
われ祈らず
彼岸に渡る力欲し
わが荷を 軽くする
慰めあらずとも
かくて荷い堪わむ
幸はふ日には うなだれて
君がみ面を見ばや
辛き夜には 世を挙げて
欺くもよし
君をゆめ 疑ふまじ

I don't beg you how to ease the pain

I want tough to go the opponents.

Even if there is no comfort lighten my sin,

I dare to endure and shoulder it.

On a happy day I see your face hanging my head.

On painful night I tell a lie all over the world.

Still in love with you.

Rabindranath Tagore, Gitanjali

I don't beg you how to ease the pain I want tough to go the opponent. Even if there is no comfort lighten my sin, I dare to endure and shoulder it. On a happy day I see your face hanging my head. On painful night I tell a lie all over the world. Still in love with you.

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I don't beg you how to ease the pain I want tough to go the opponent. Even if there is no comfort lighten my sin, I dare to endure and shoulder it. On a happy day I see your face hanging my head. On painful night I tell a lie all over the world. Still in love with you.

I don't beg you how to ease the pain I want tough to go the opponent. Even if there is no comfort lighten my sin, I dare to endure and shoulder it. On a happy day I see your face hanging my head. On

Dance In The Vampire Bund 8

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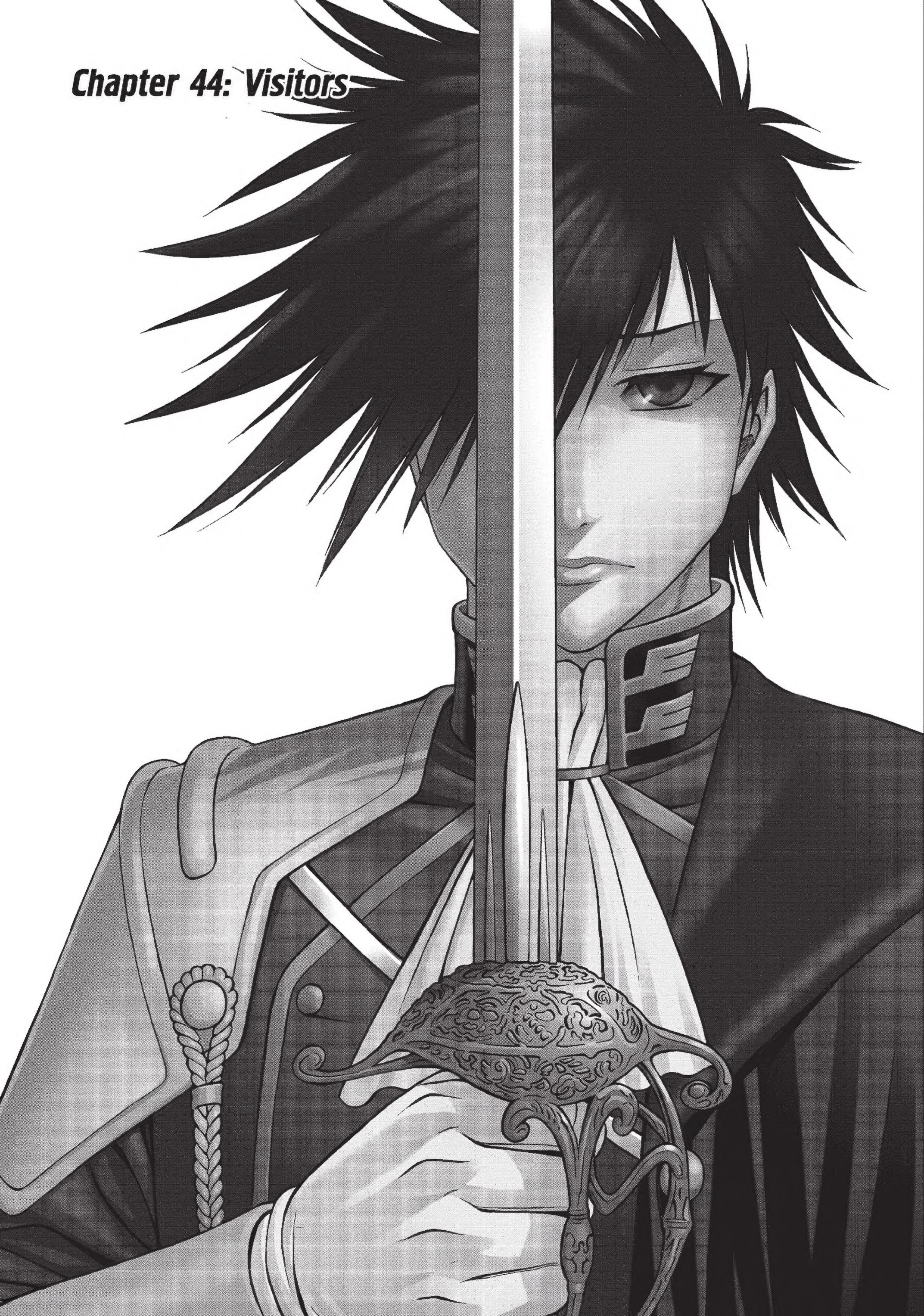
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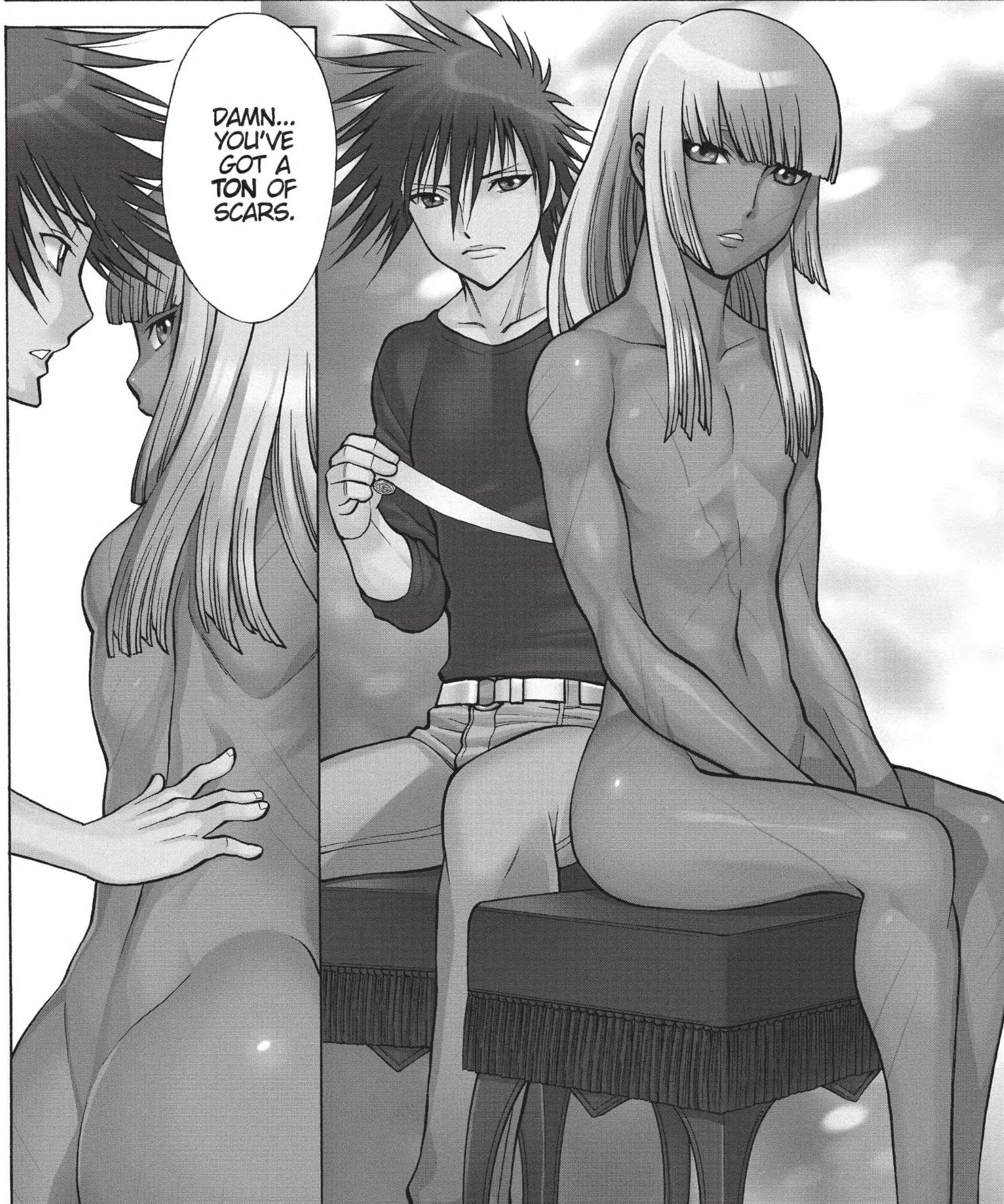
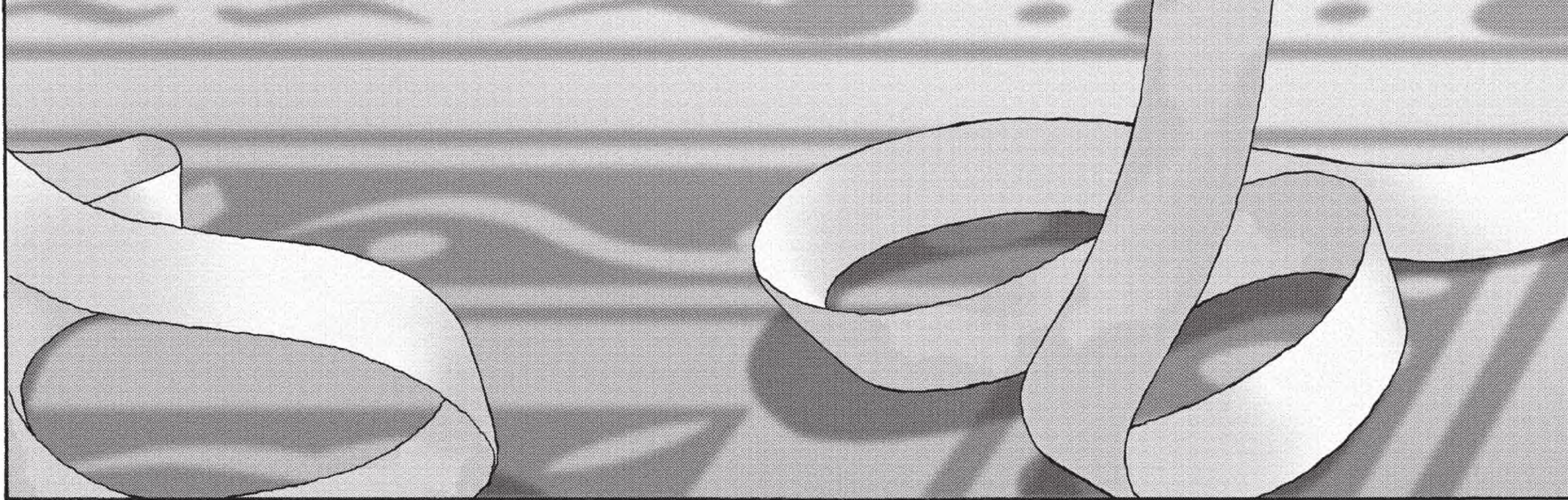
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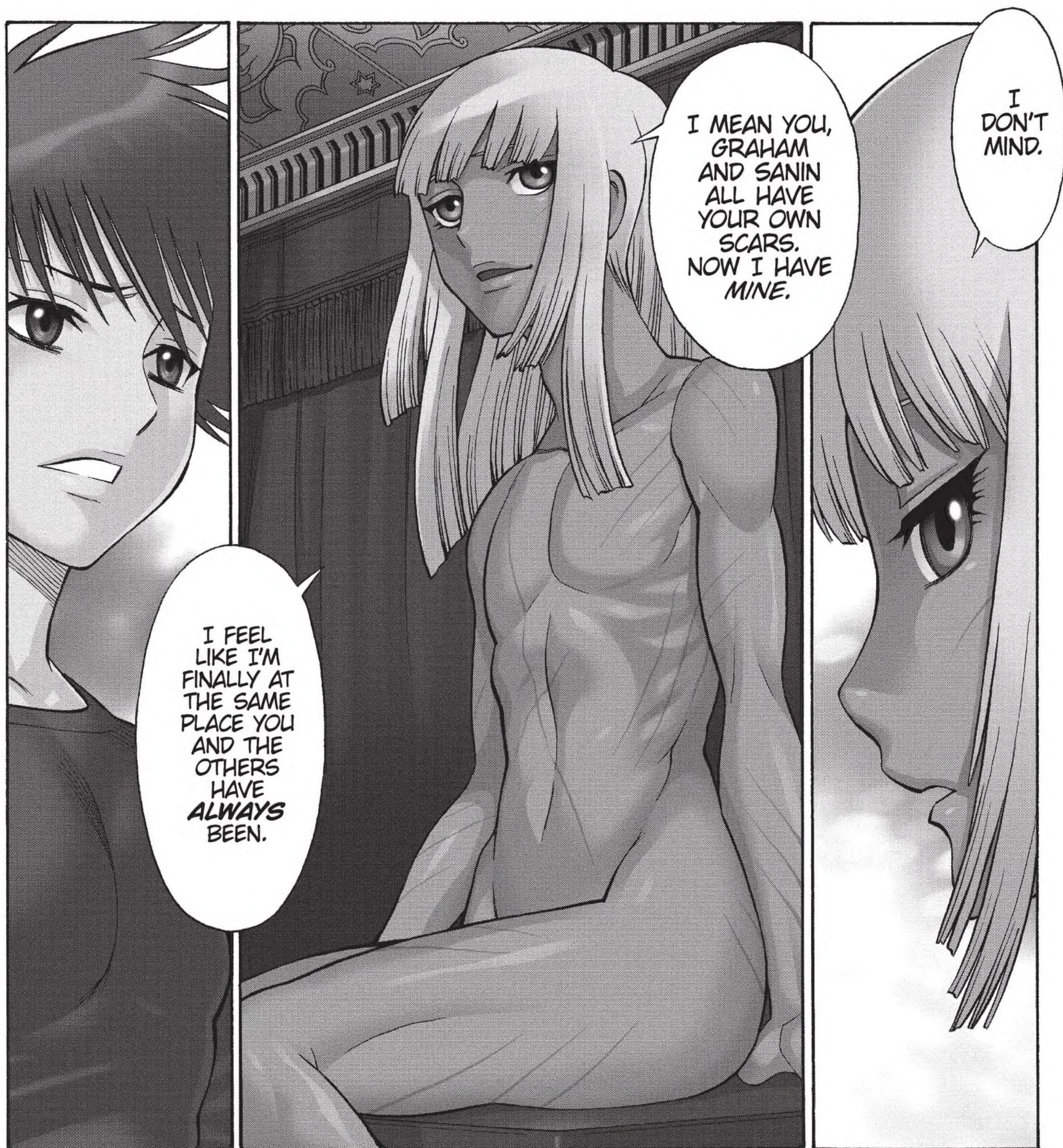
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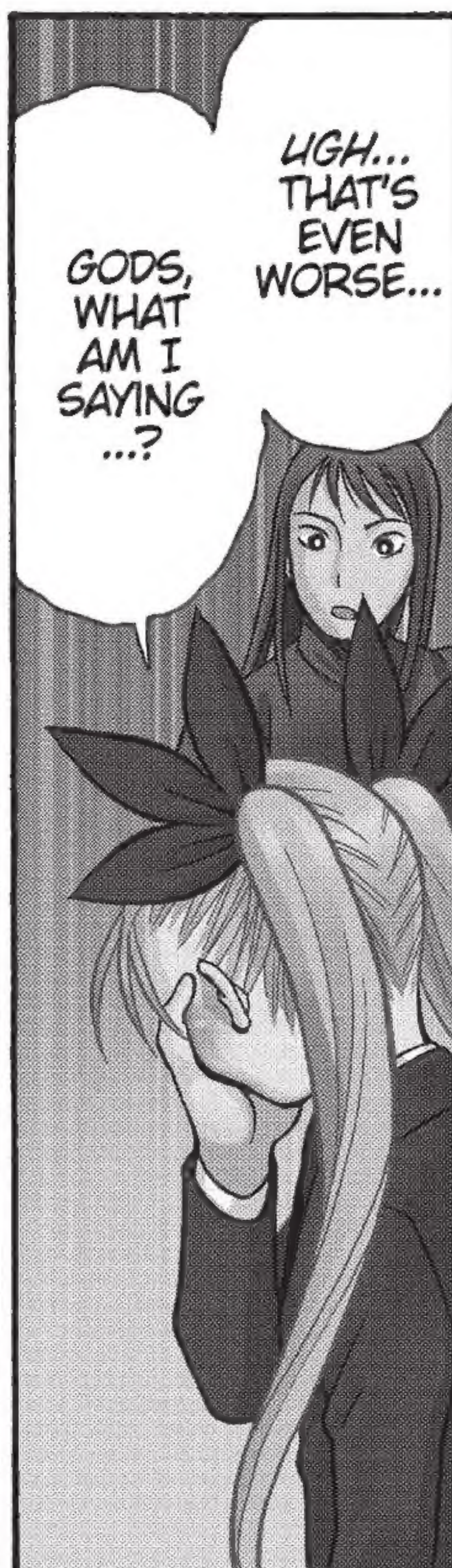
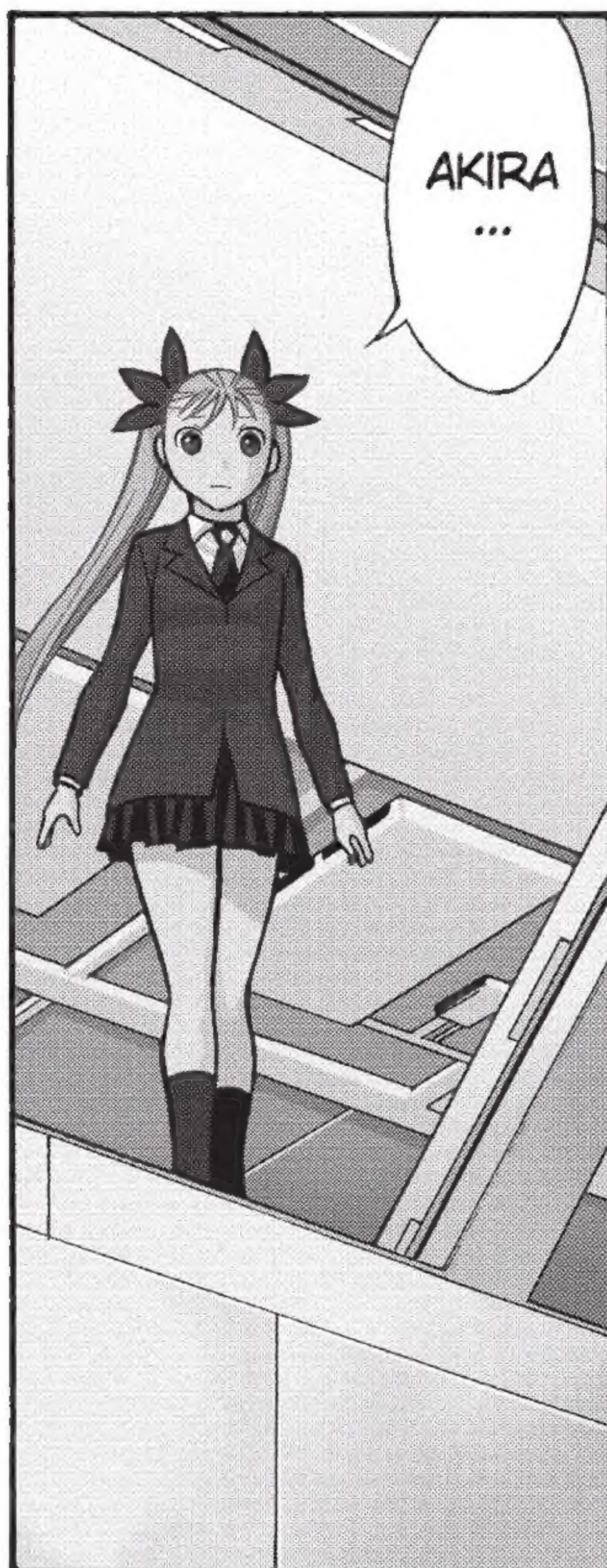
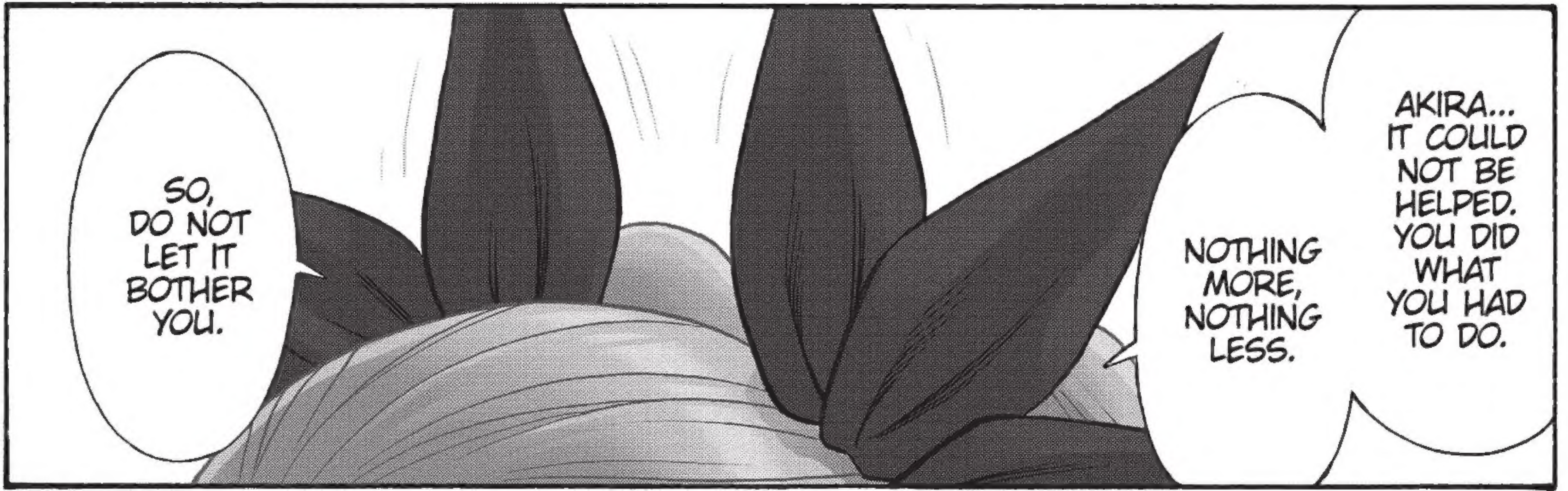
Chapter 44: Visitors

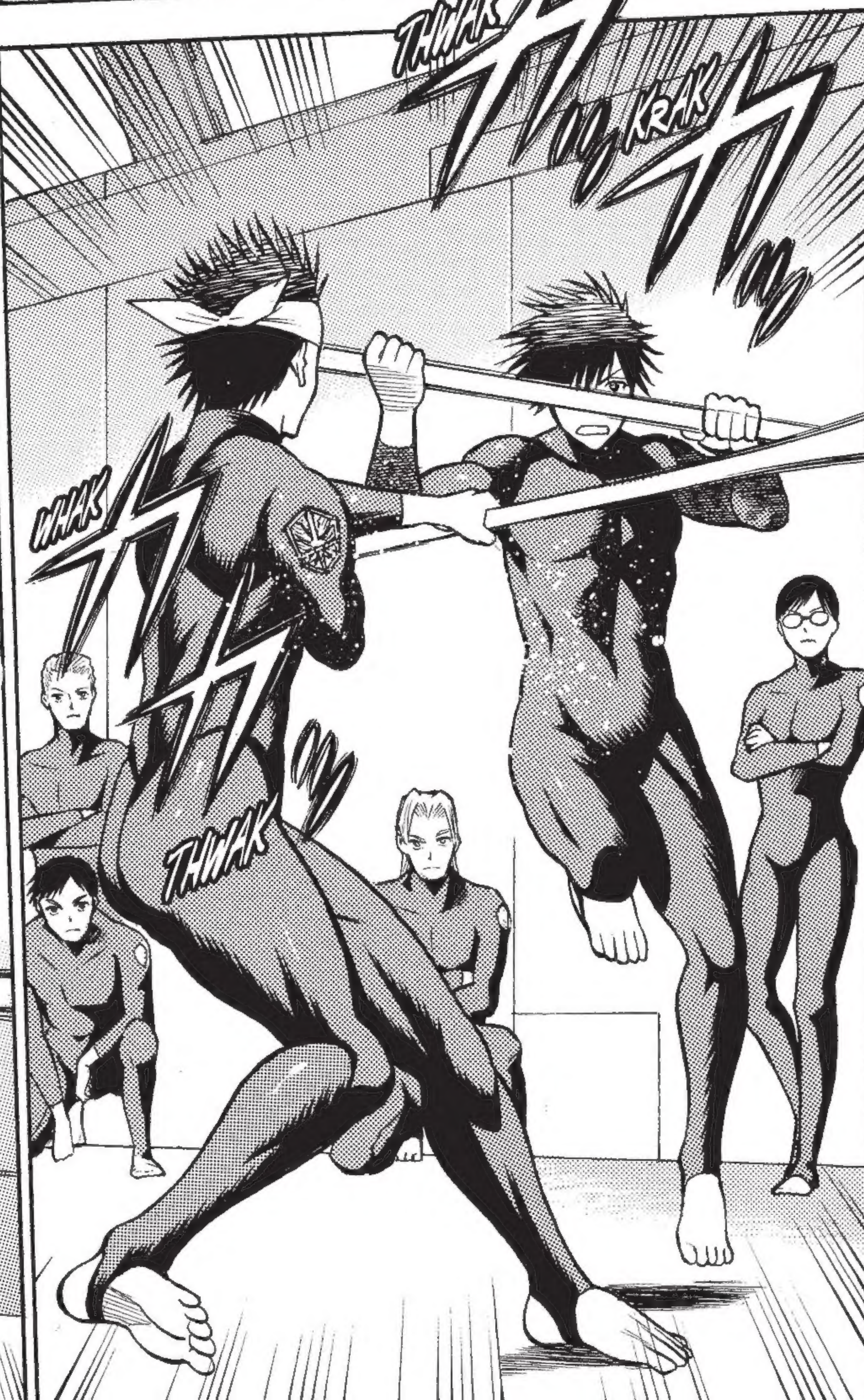




DAMN...
YOU'VE
GOT A
TON OF
SCARS.



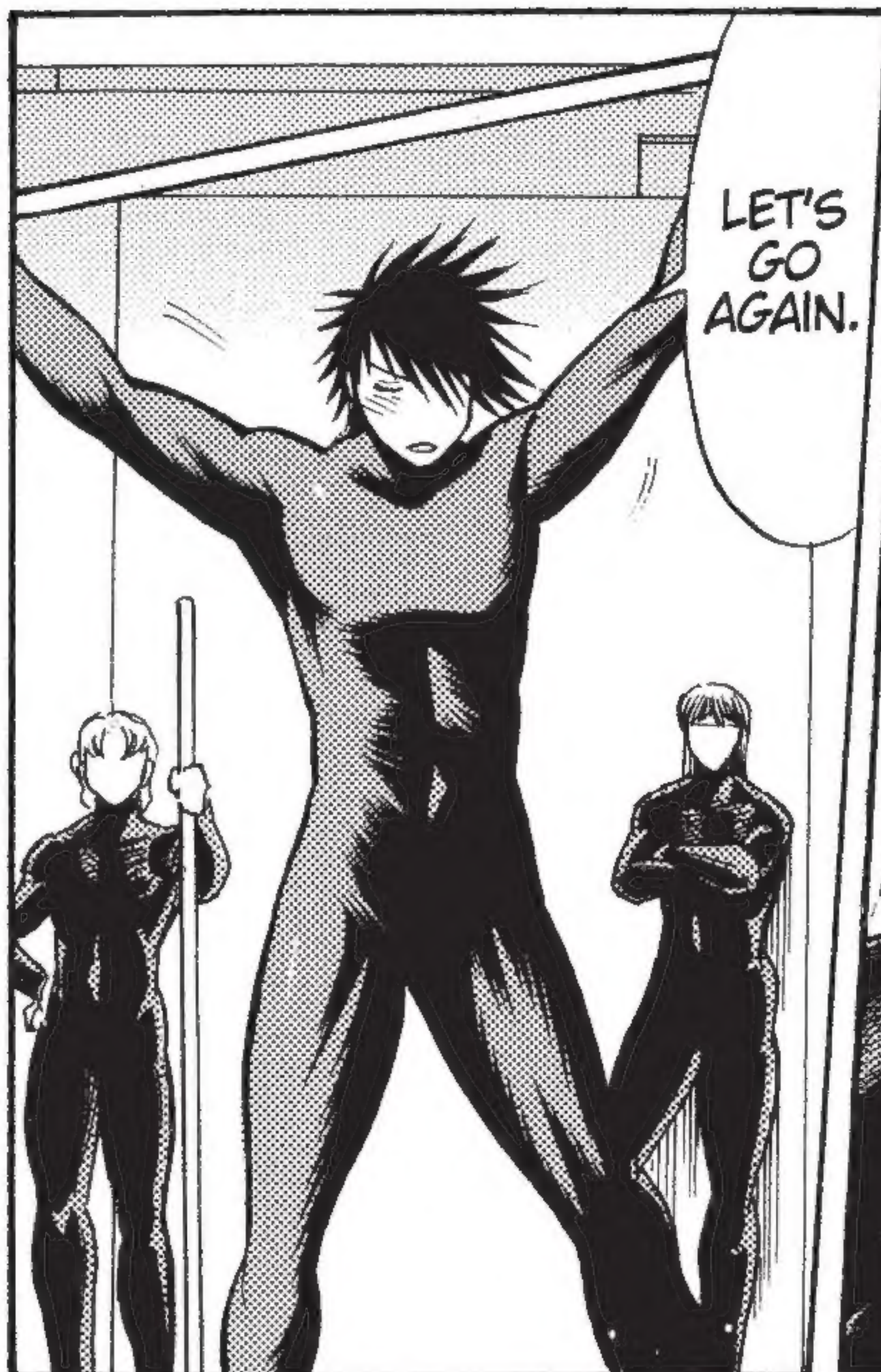






MIND IF I SPAR WITH YOU THIS TIME?

AGAIN? YOU'RE GOING ALL OUT TODAY, AIN'TCHA?

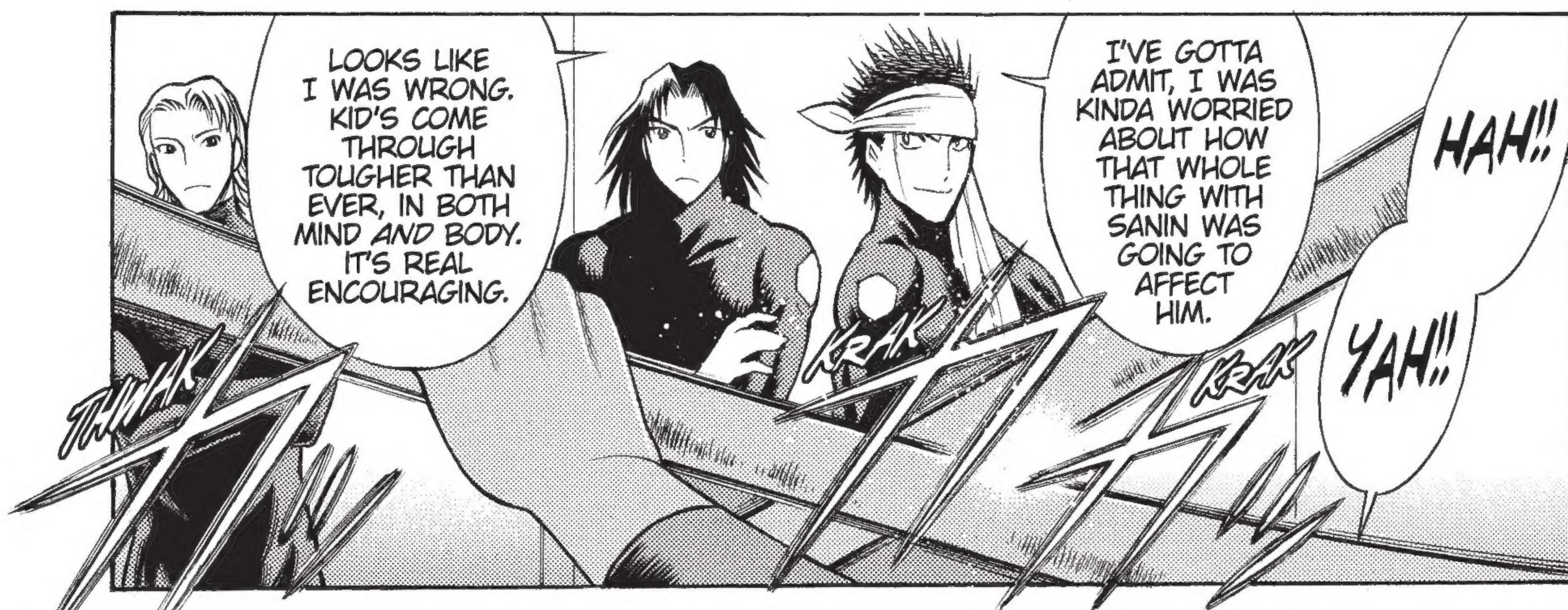


LET'S GO AGAIN.



WHOA, SORRY, MAN. INSTINCTS GOT THE BETTER OF ME.

YOU OKAY?



LOOKS LIKE I WAS WRONG. KID'S COME THROUGH TOUGHER THAN EVER, IN BOTH MIND AND BODY. IT'S REAL ENCOURAGING.

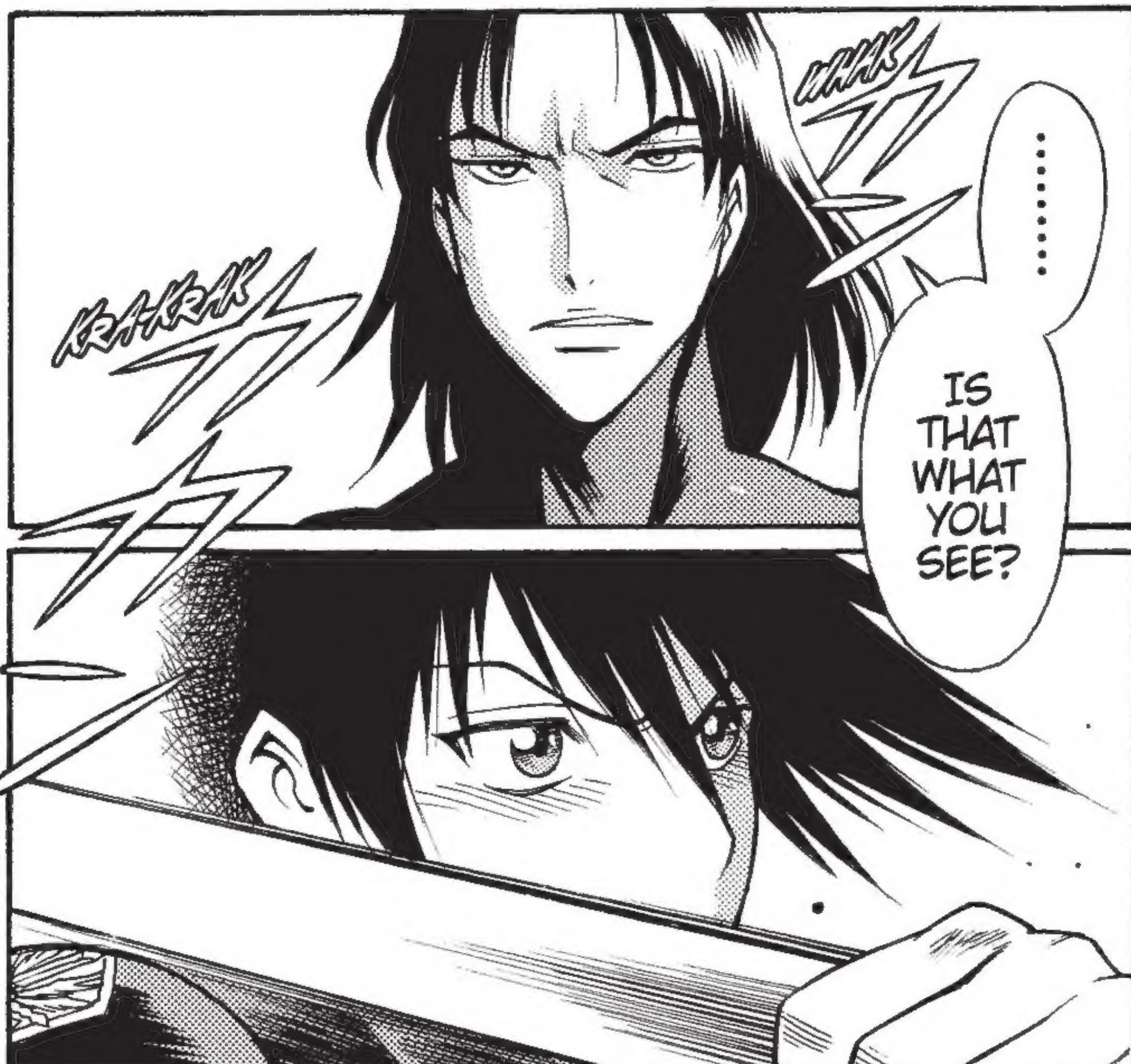
I'VE GOTTA ADMIT, I WAS KINDA WORRIED ABOUT HOW THAT WHOLE THING WITH SANIN WAS GOING TO AFFECT HIM.

HAH!!

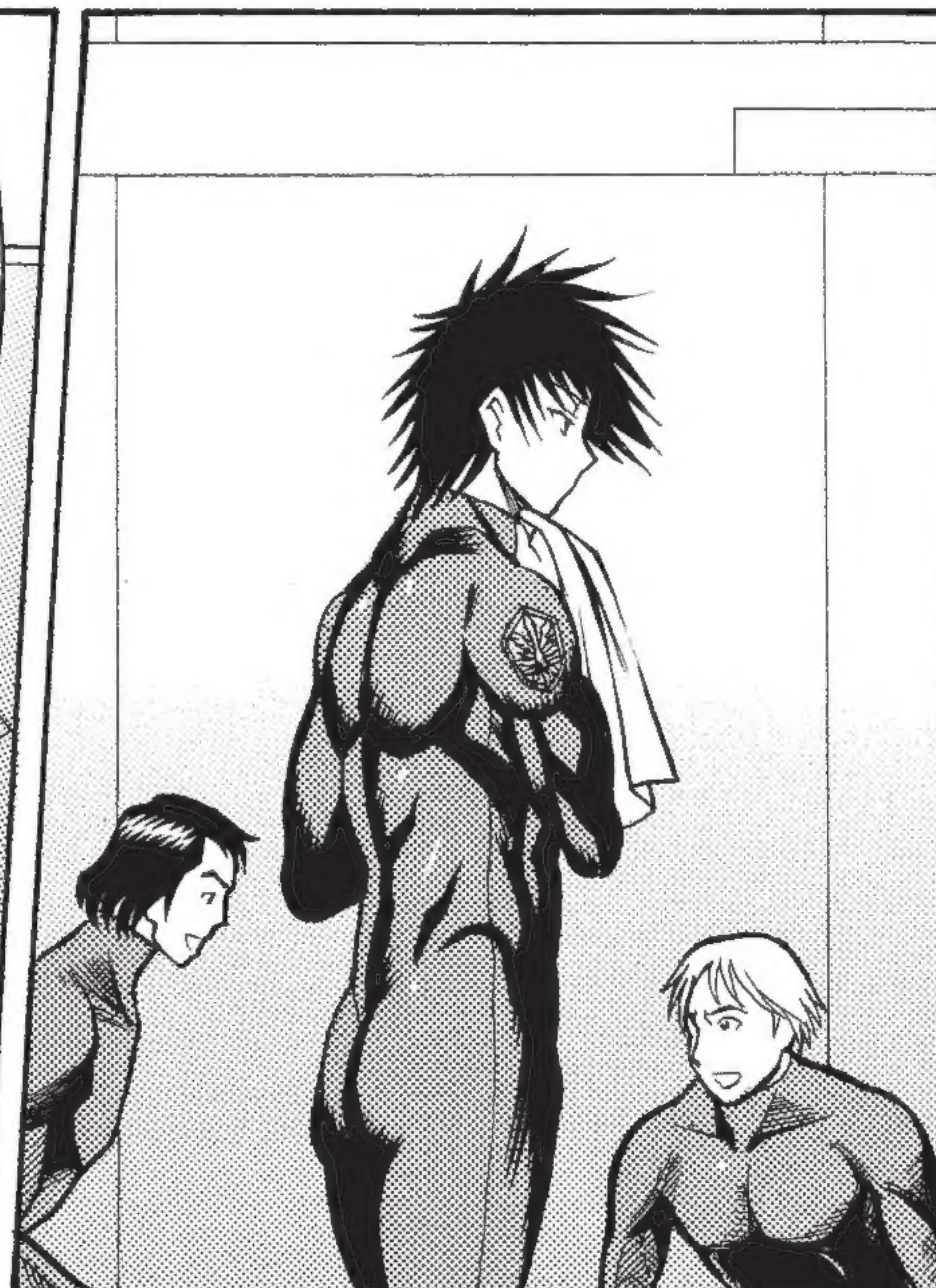
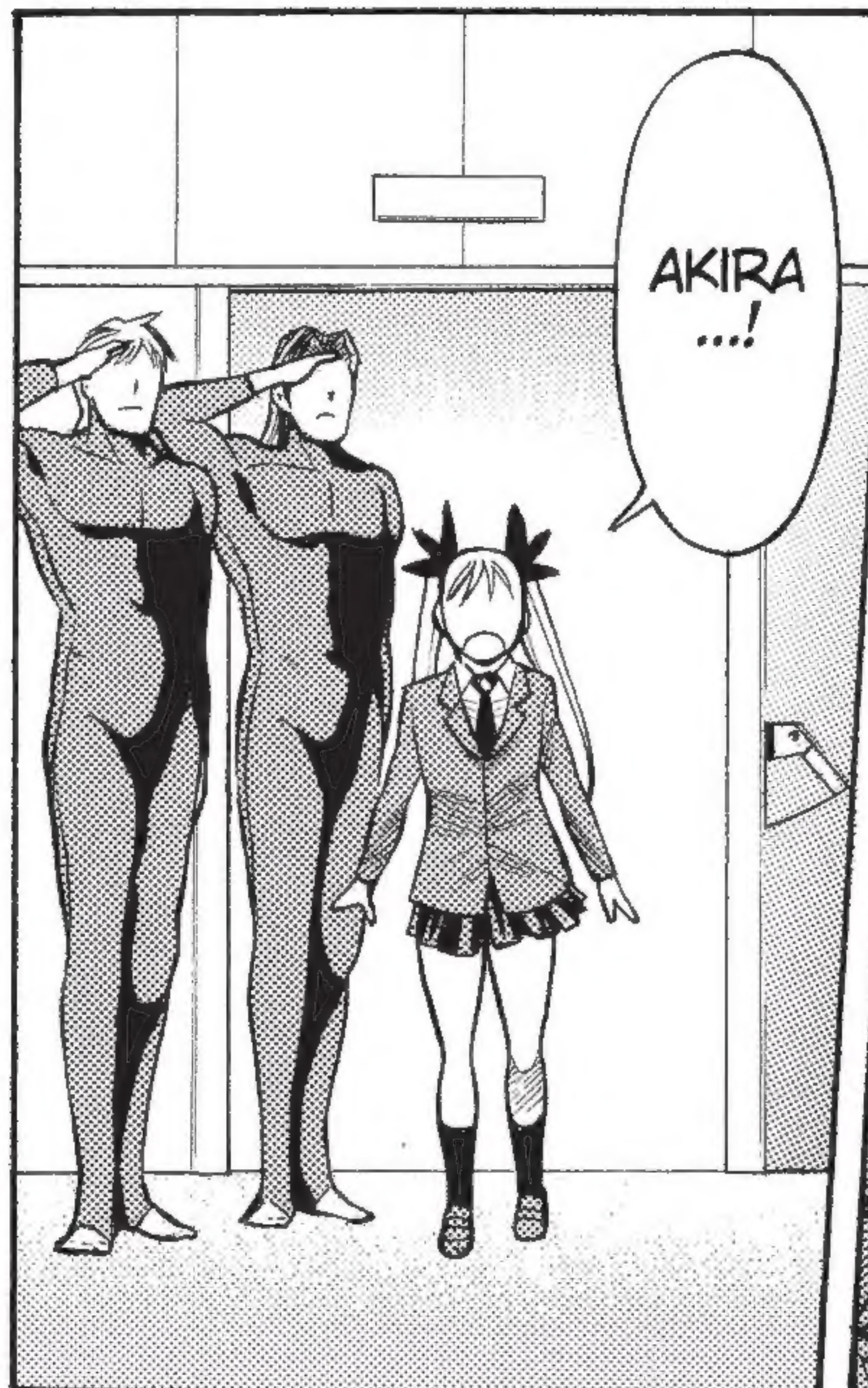
YAH!!

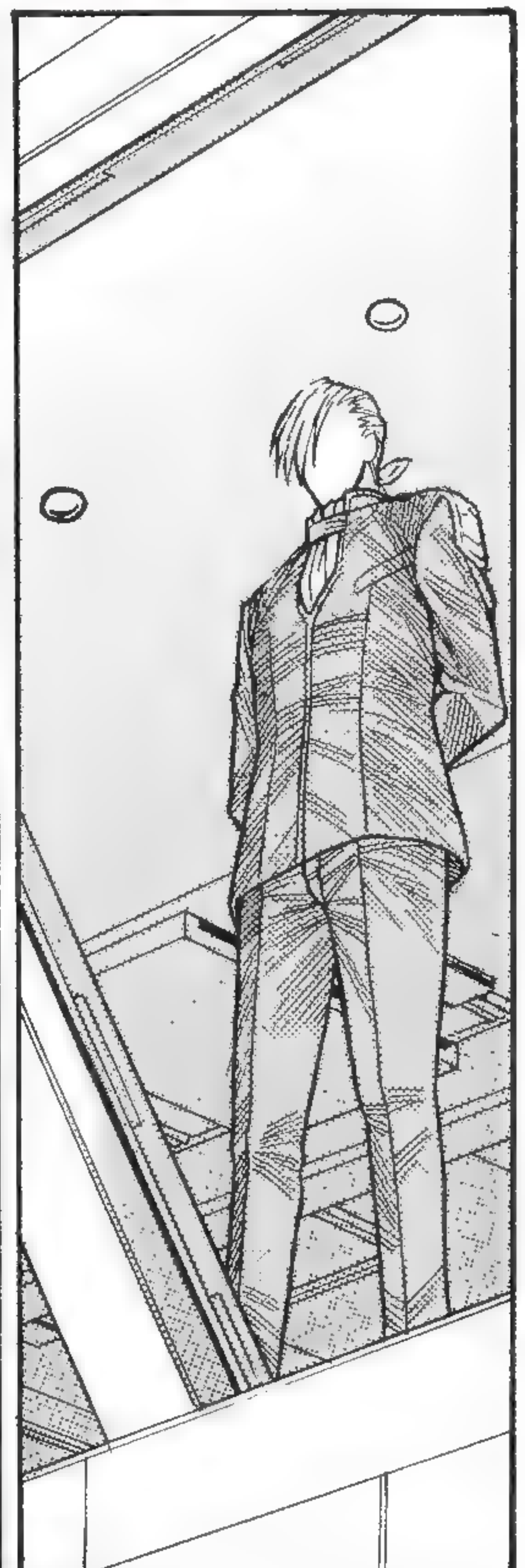
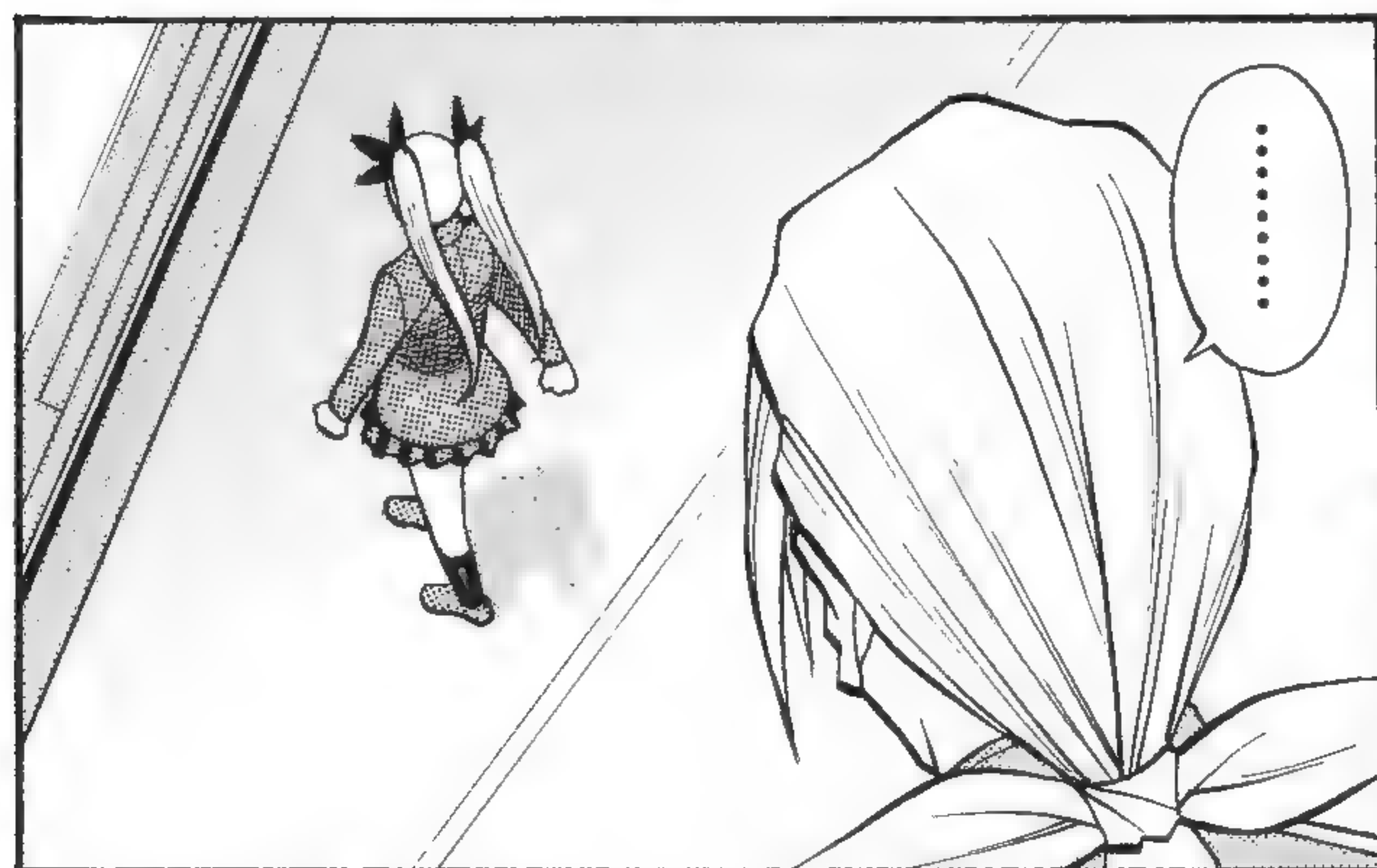


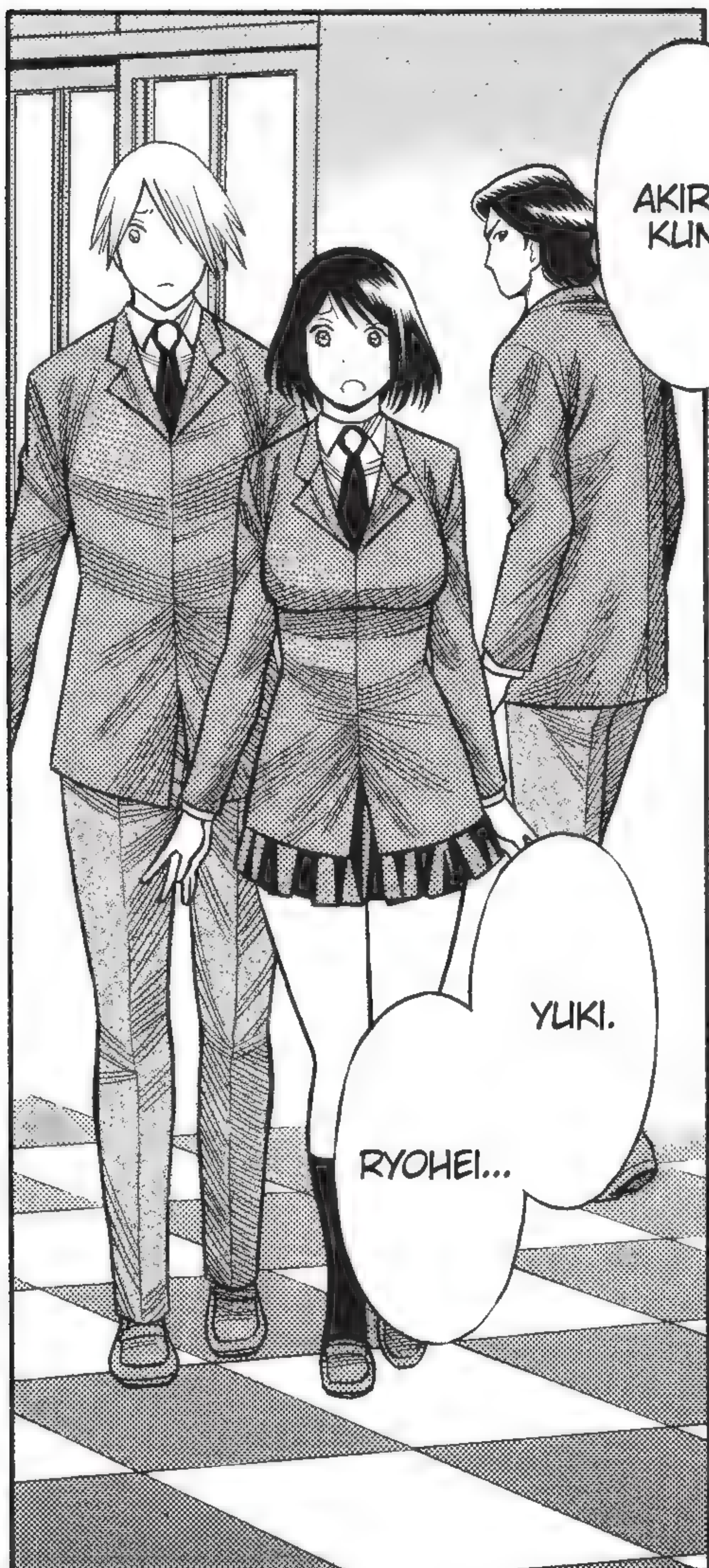
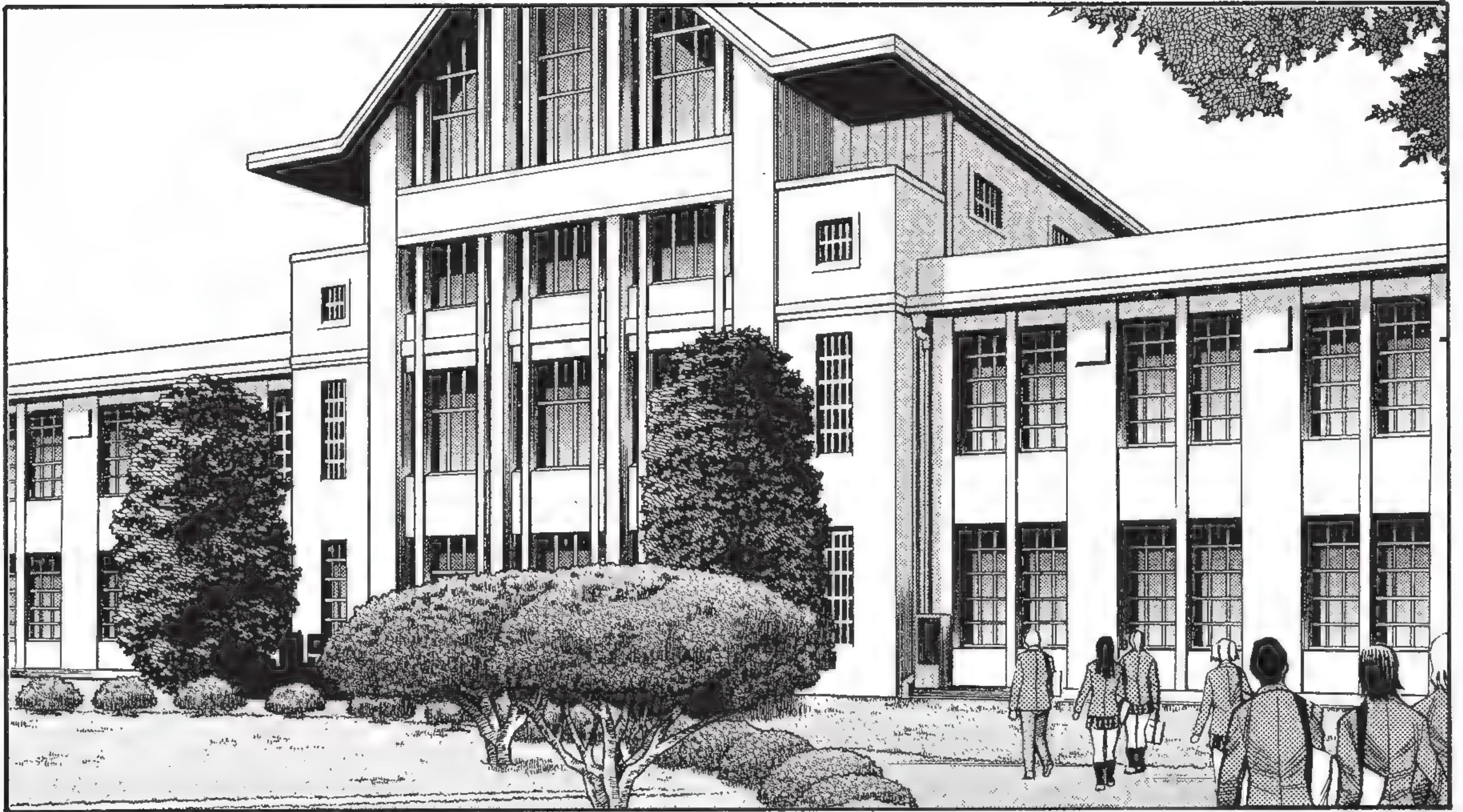
AKIRA ...



IS THAT WHAT YOU SEE?



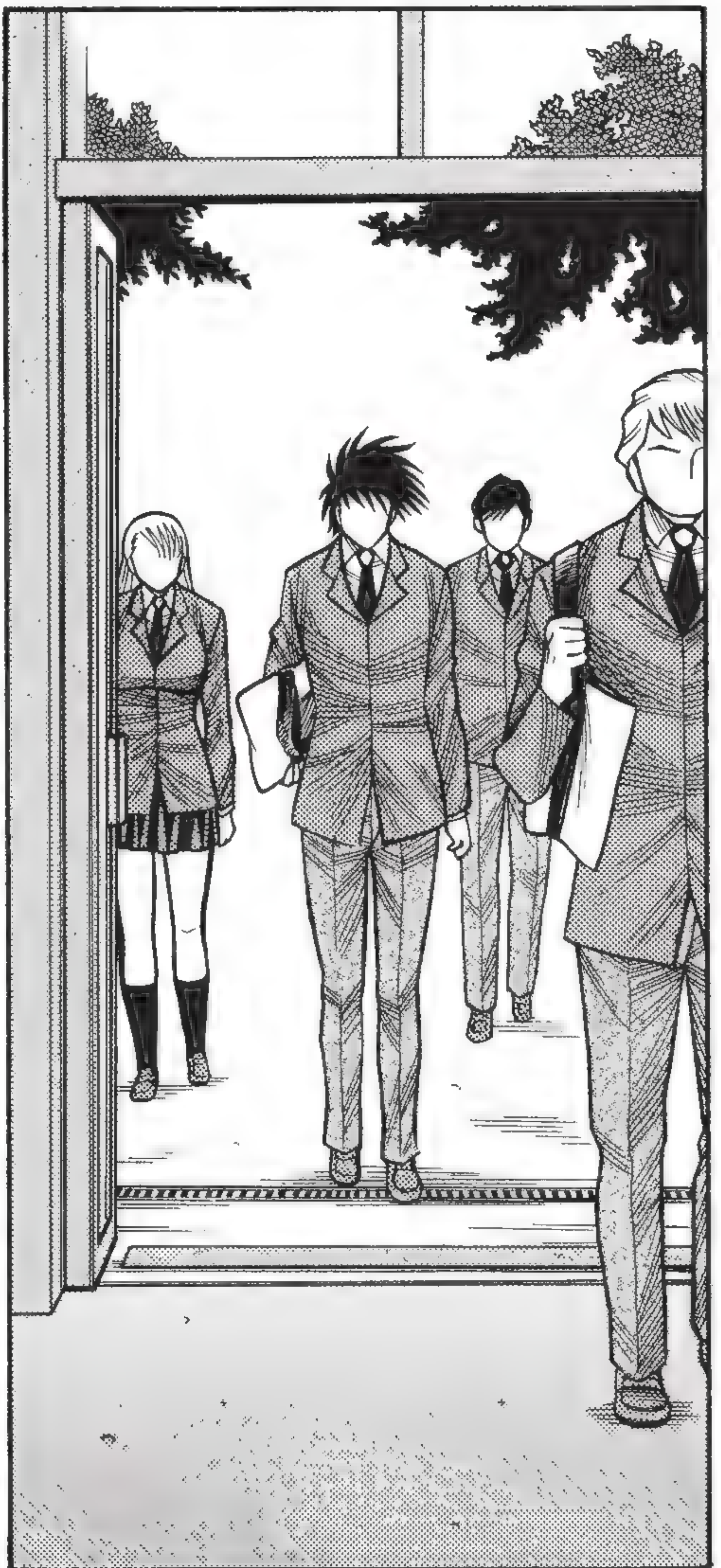


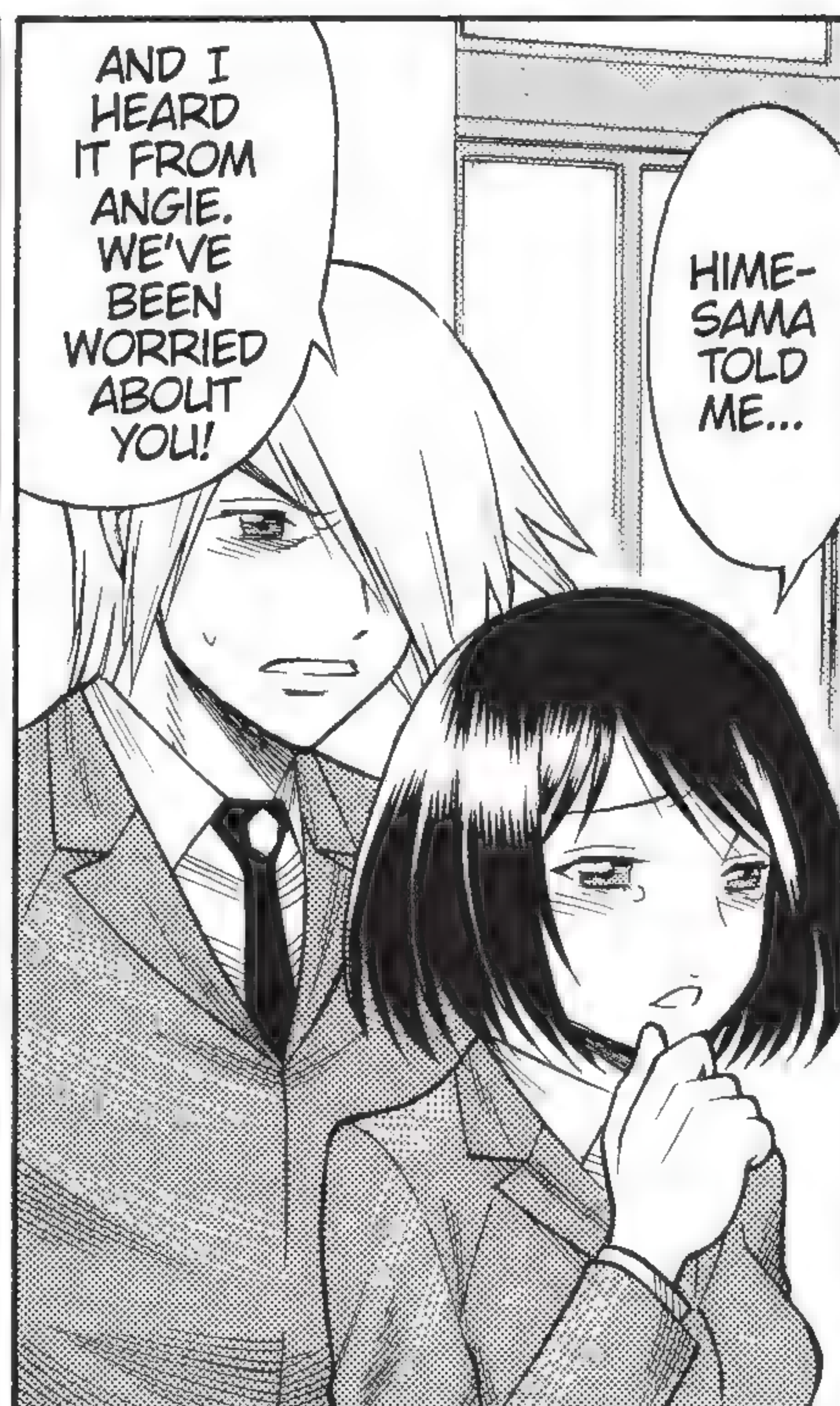


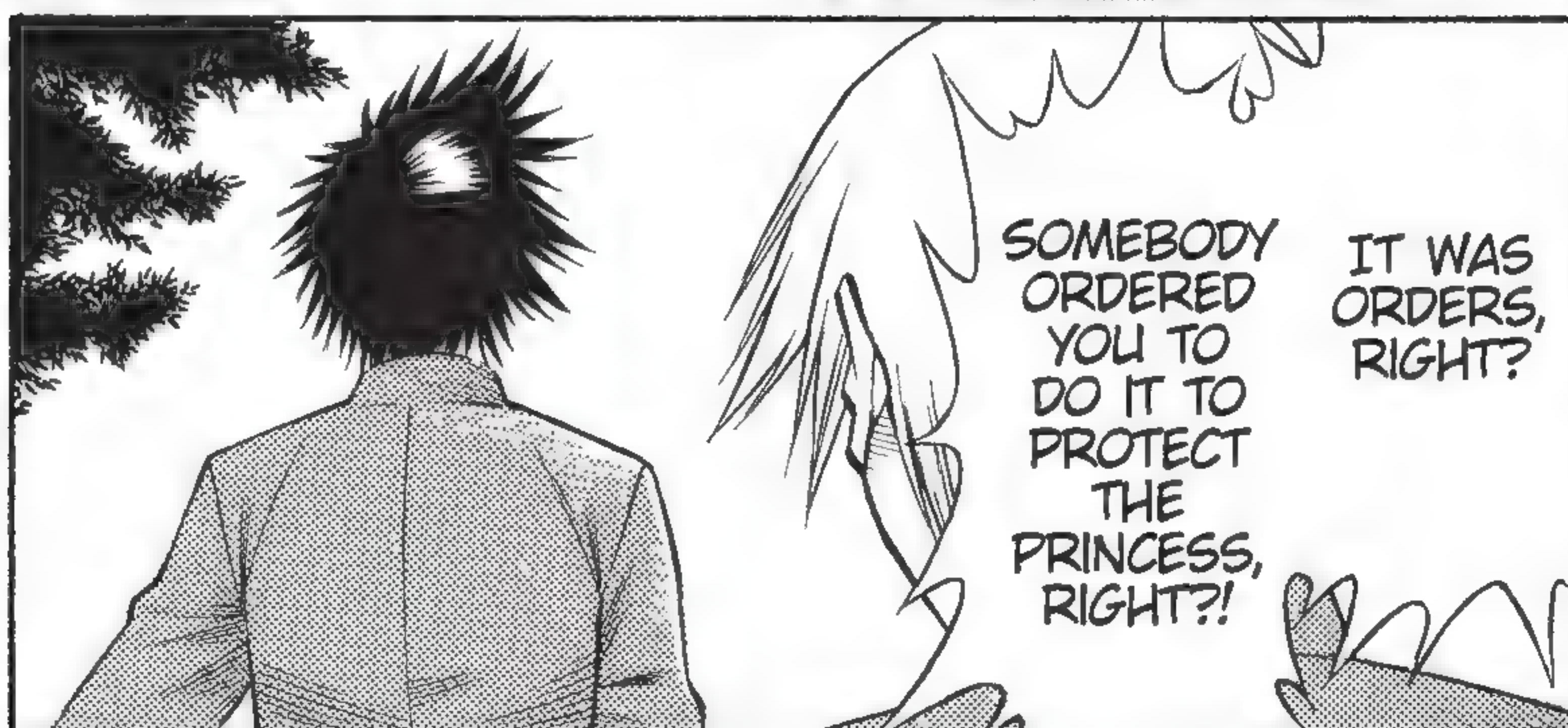
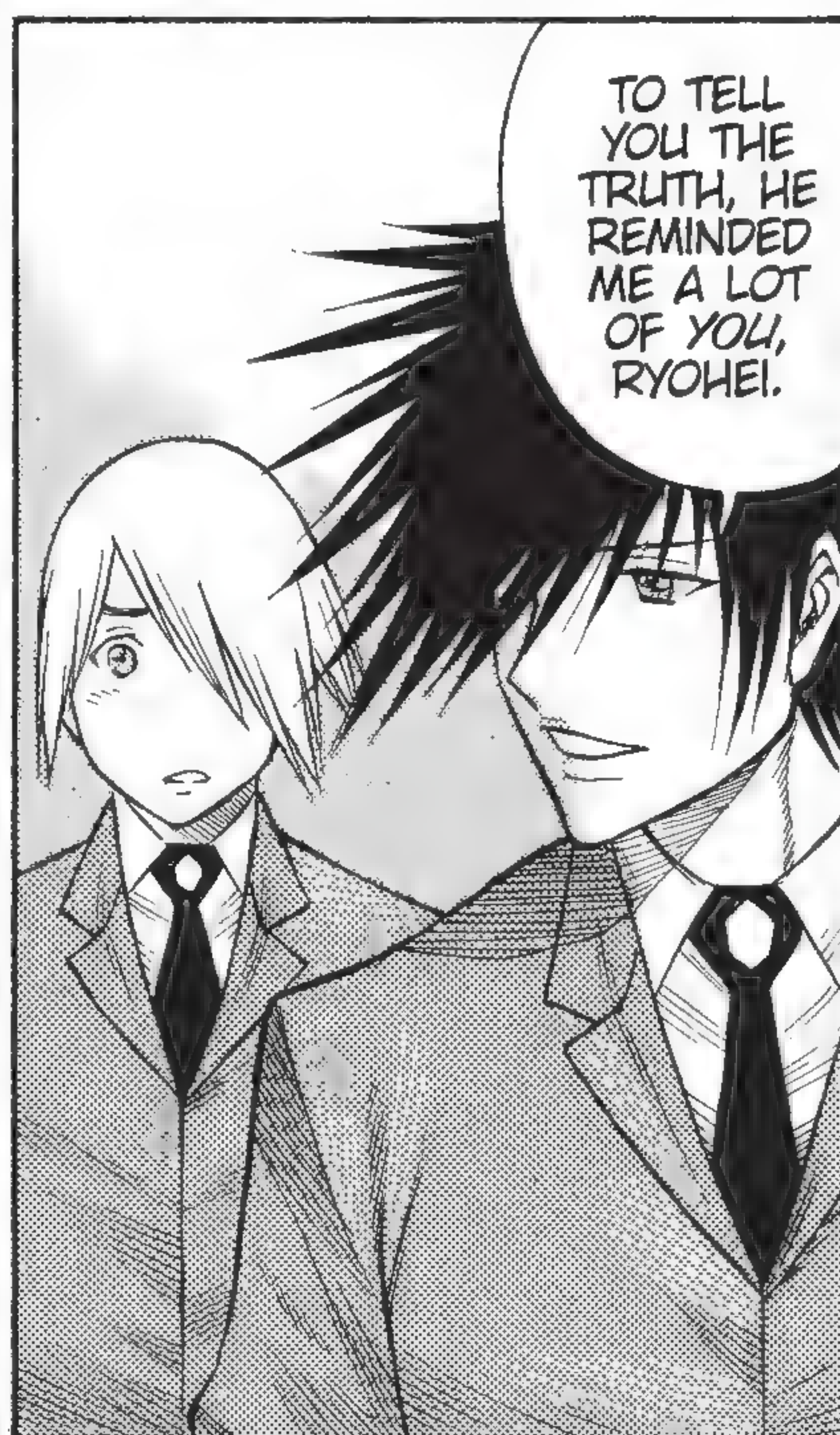
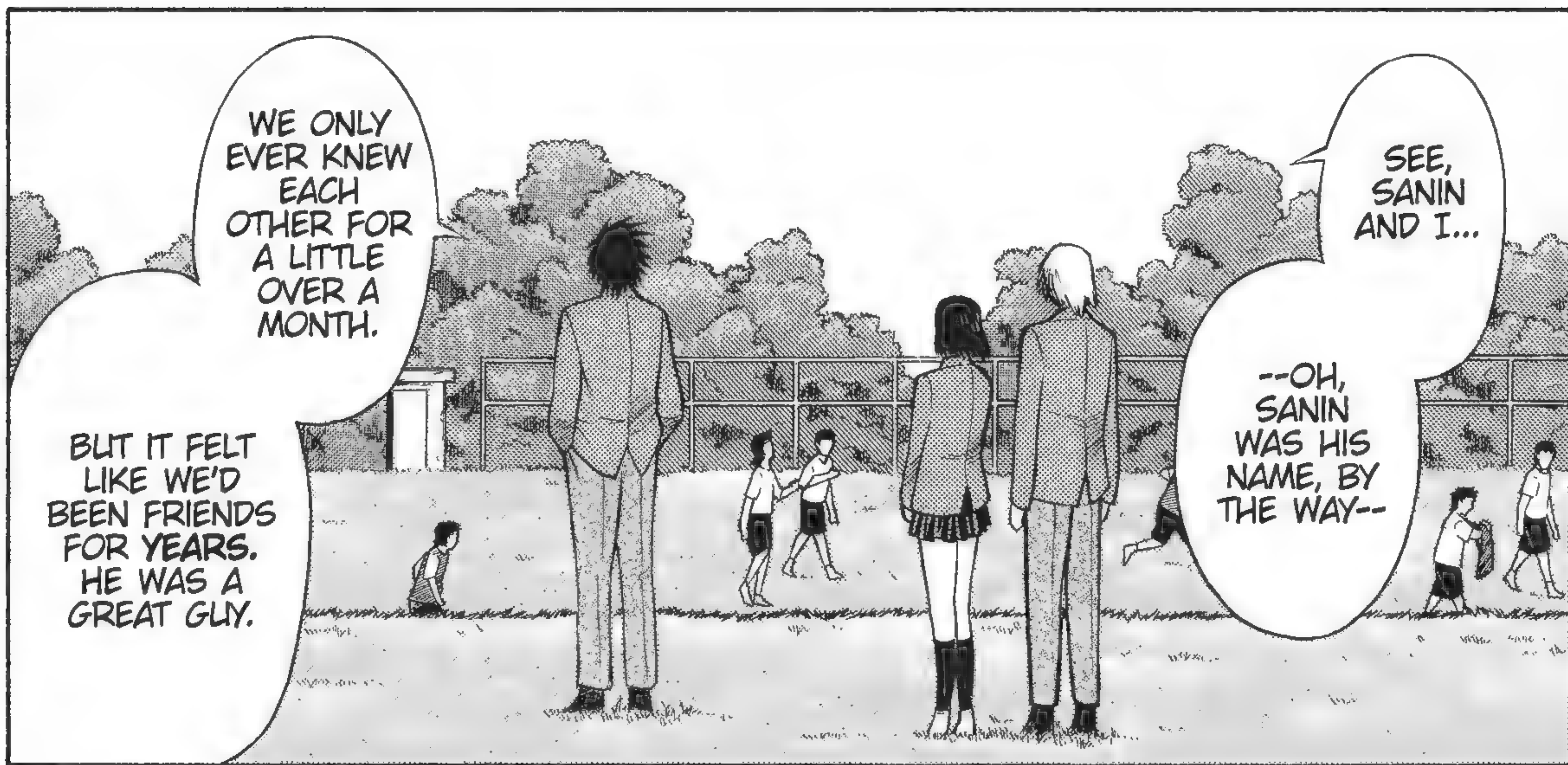
AKIRA-
KUN?

YUKI.

RYOHEI...









AKIRA-
KUN...

I THINK I
UNDERSTAND
NOW WHAT
HE MEANT.



TIME IS
A RIVER
THAT NEVER
FLOWS
BACKWARDS.


NO MATTER
WHAT IS
WAITING
FOR YOU
WHEN YOU
REACH YOUR
DESTINATION.

ONCE YOU
JUMP IN,
THERE'S
NOTHING
FOR YOU TO
DO BUT TO
LET IT TAKE
YOU WHERE
IT WILLS...



TO WALK IT,
SOMEBODY'S
GOING TO HAVE
TO GET HURT.
SOMEBODY'S
GOING TO HAVE
TO BLEED.
THAT'S HER
FATE...

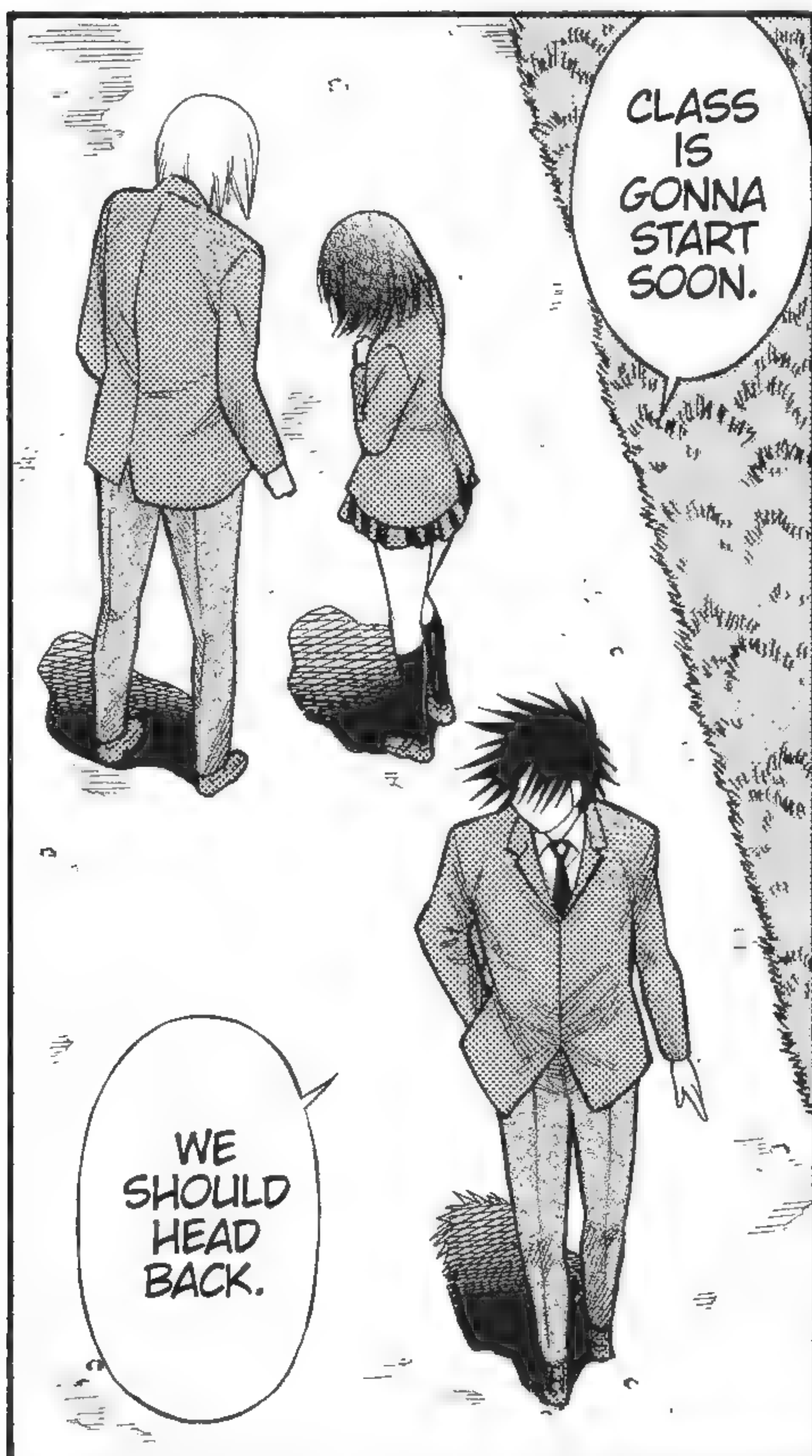
HIME-SAN
MUST TAKE
A PATH
THAT ISN'T
PRETTY
OR NICE.

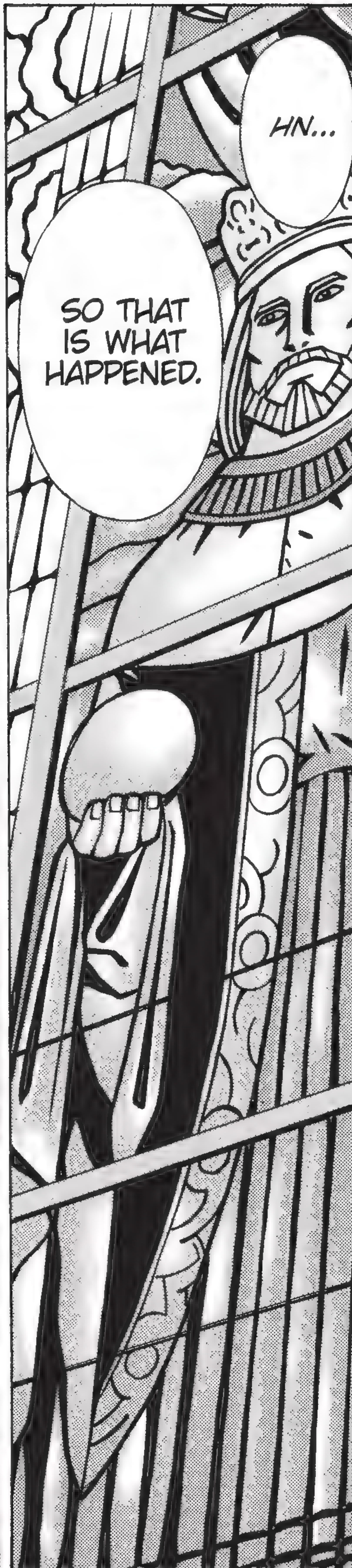
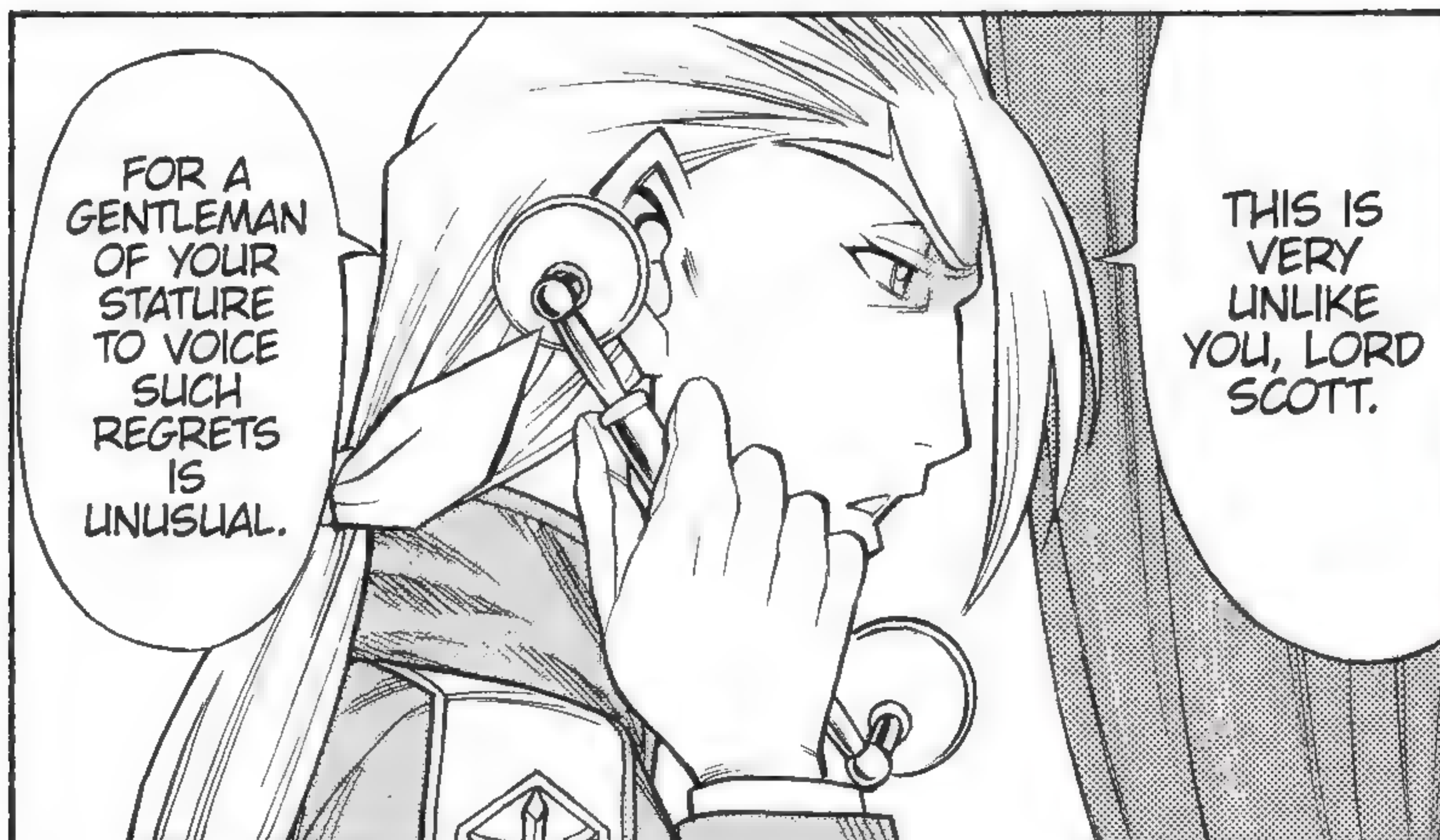
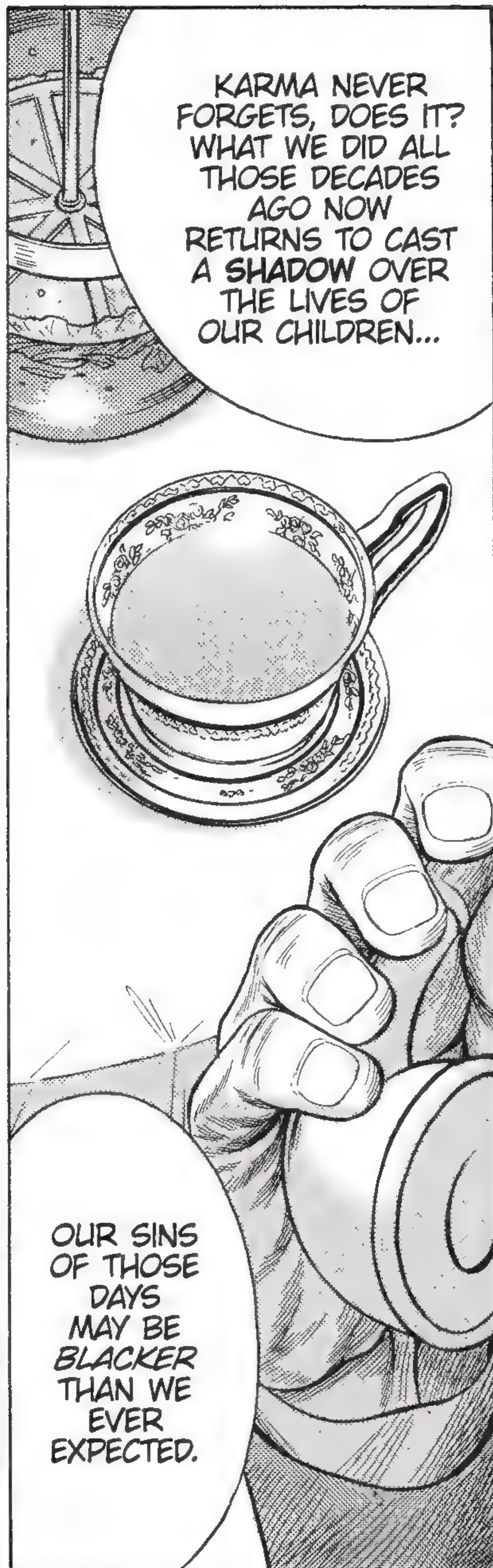


SO I'D
RATHER
THAT
"SOMEBODY"
BE ME.

IT'S
THE
LEAST
I CAN
DO FOR
HER.

ME,
INSTEAD
OF
ANYONE
ELSE.







YES. SANIN WAS THE LAST OF THE HUMORESQUE FAMILY, AND AS SUCH, HE HAS NO ONE TO RETRIEVE HIS REMAINS.

YOU BURIED SANIN THERE IN THE BLIND, I PRESUME?

IT'S BEEN CENTURIES SINCE THOSE DAYS, AFTER ALL.

OH, I'VE JUST GOTTEN OLD.



IT HAS ALSO BEEN FAR TOO LONG SINCE I WAS LAST GIVEN THE PLEASURE OF SEEING HER MAJESTY IN PERSON.

I WILL BE VISITING THE BLIND BEFORE TOO LONG. PERHAPS I SHOULD GO TO THE CEMETERY AND PAY THE BOY MY RESPECTS.



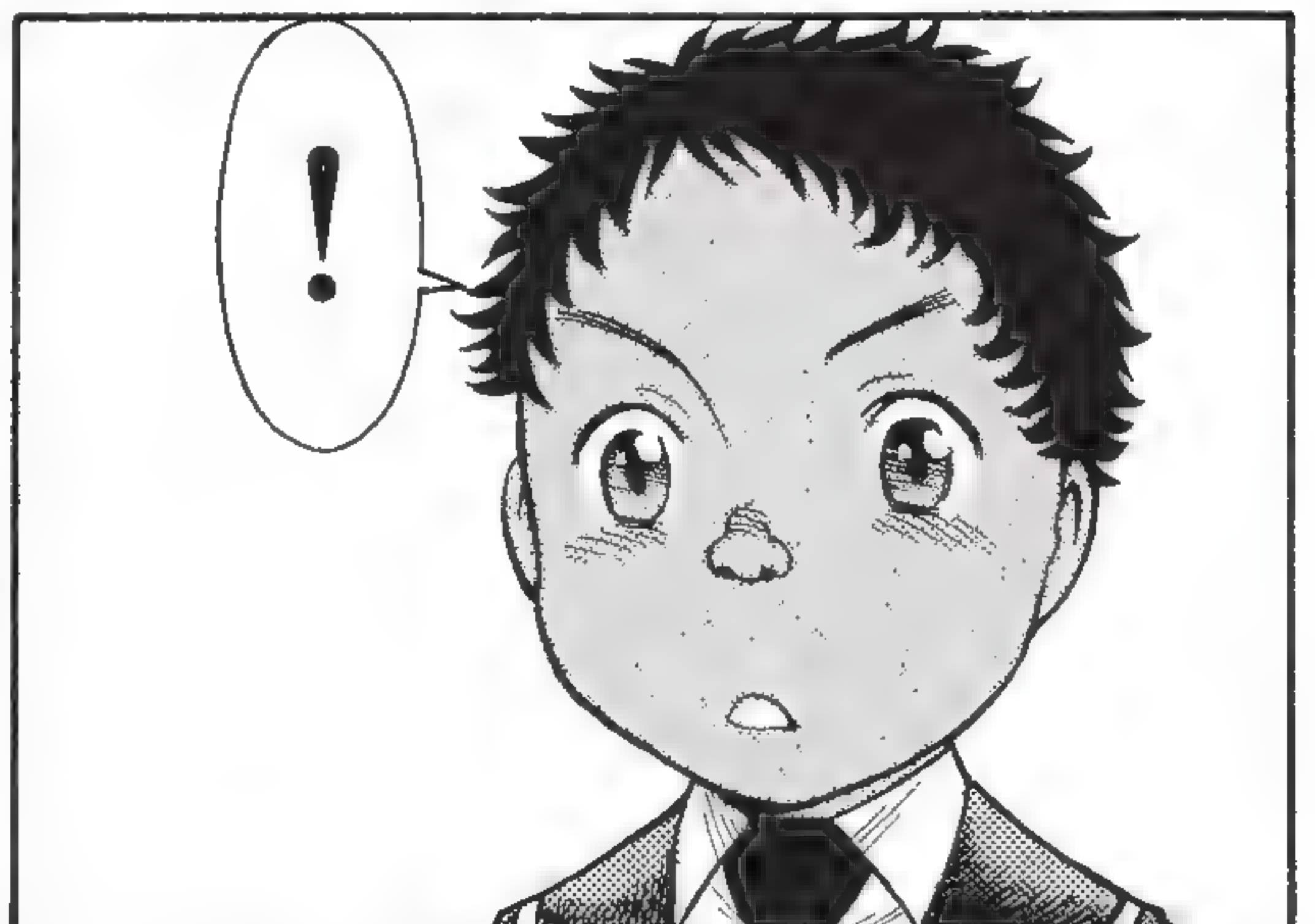
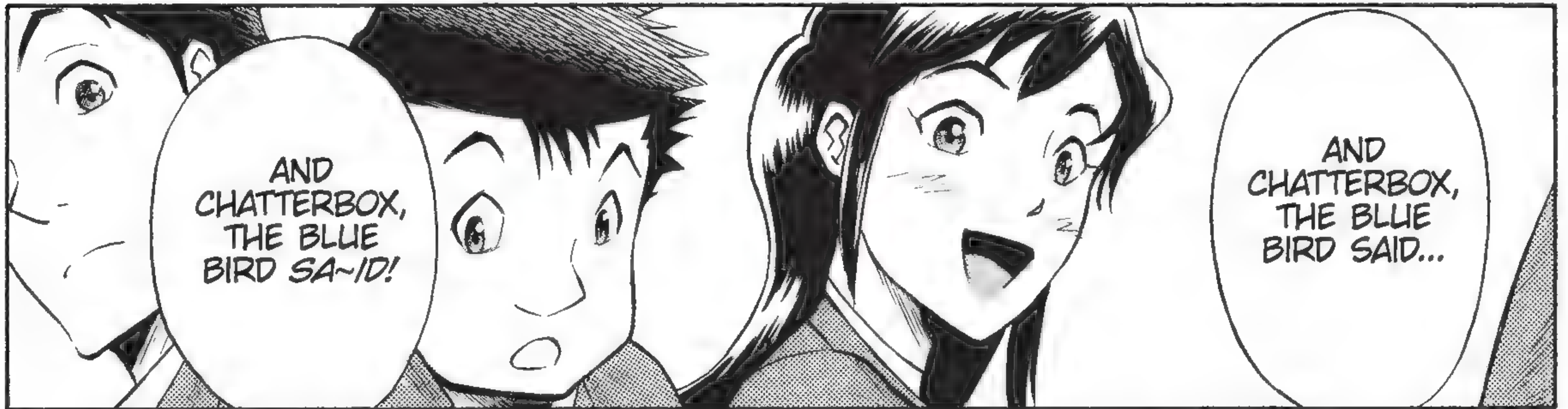
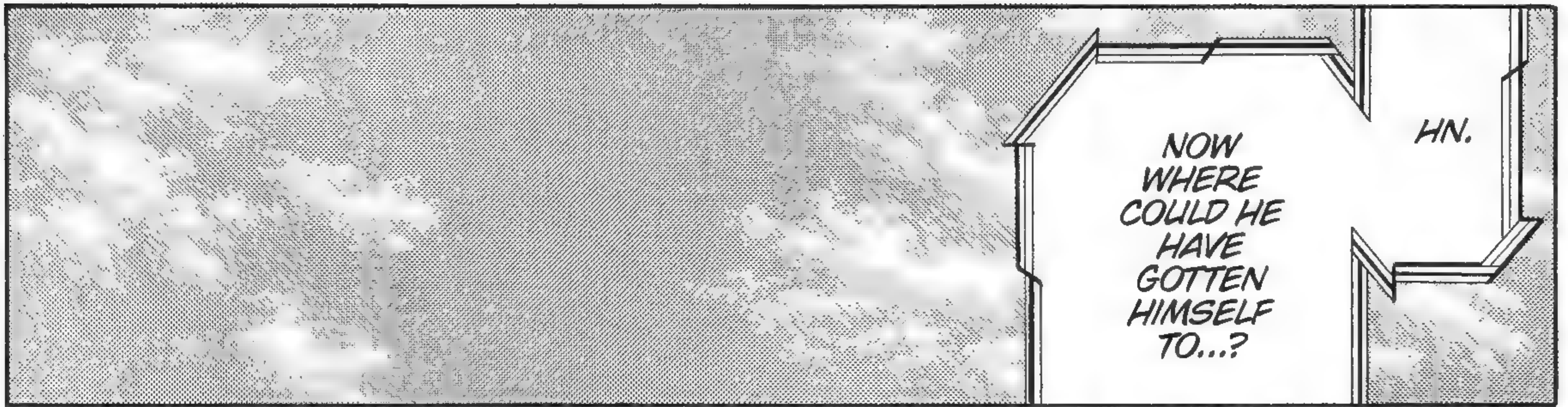
NOT YET, SIR.

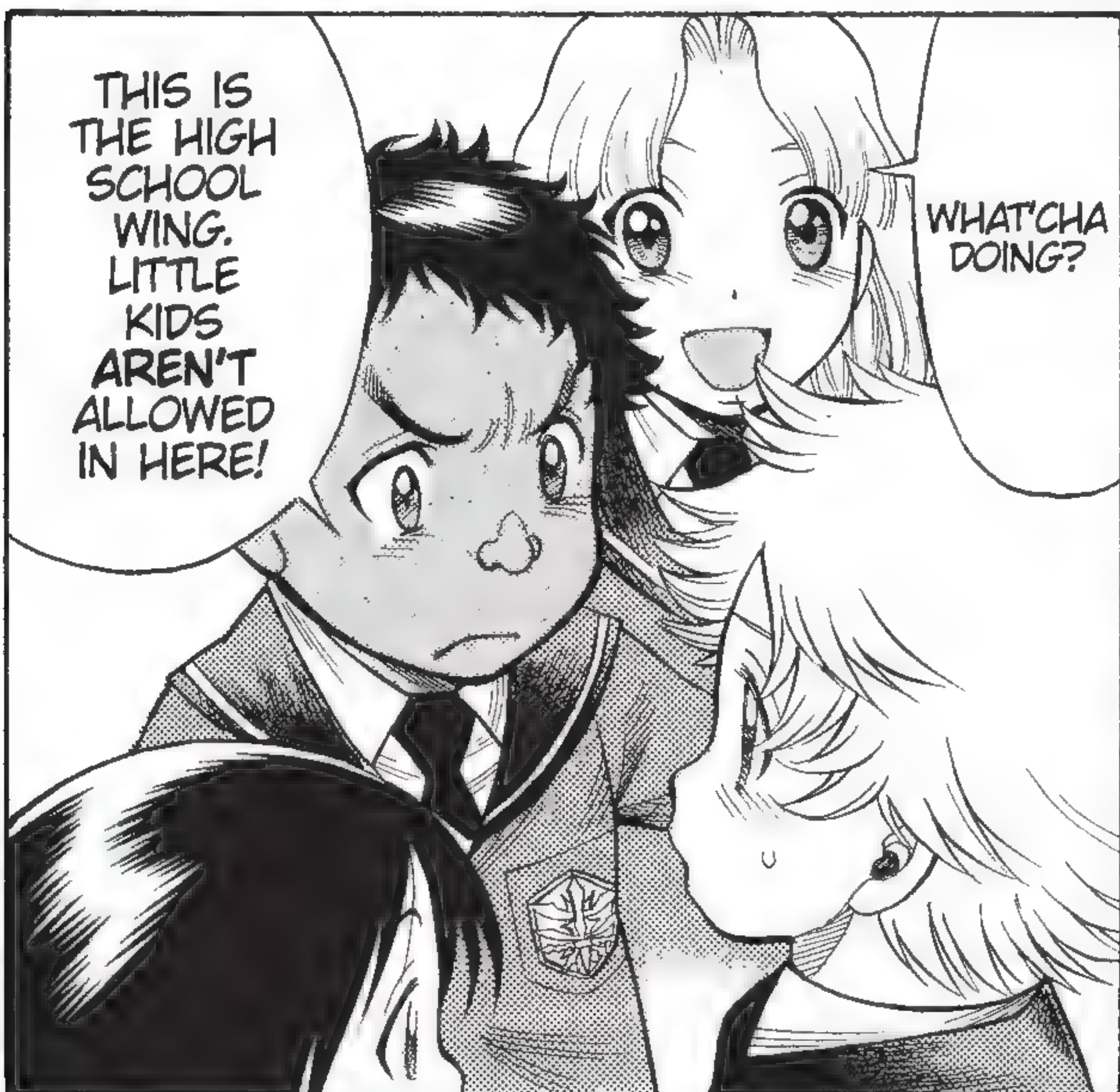
YES. I ALREADY SENT HIM YOUR WAY.

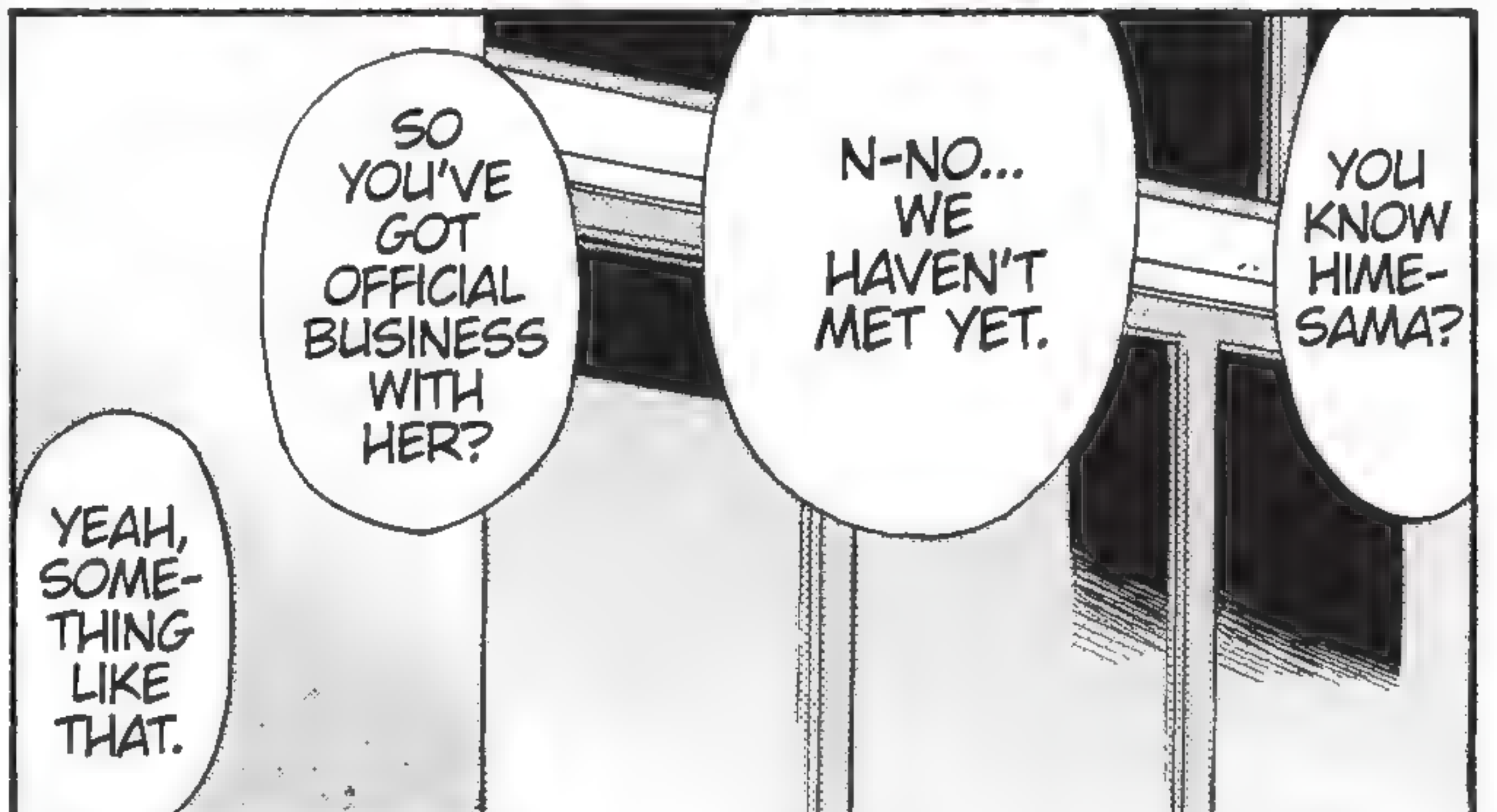
HAS HE NOT ARRIVED YET?

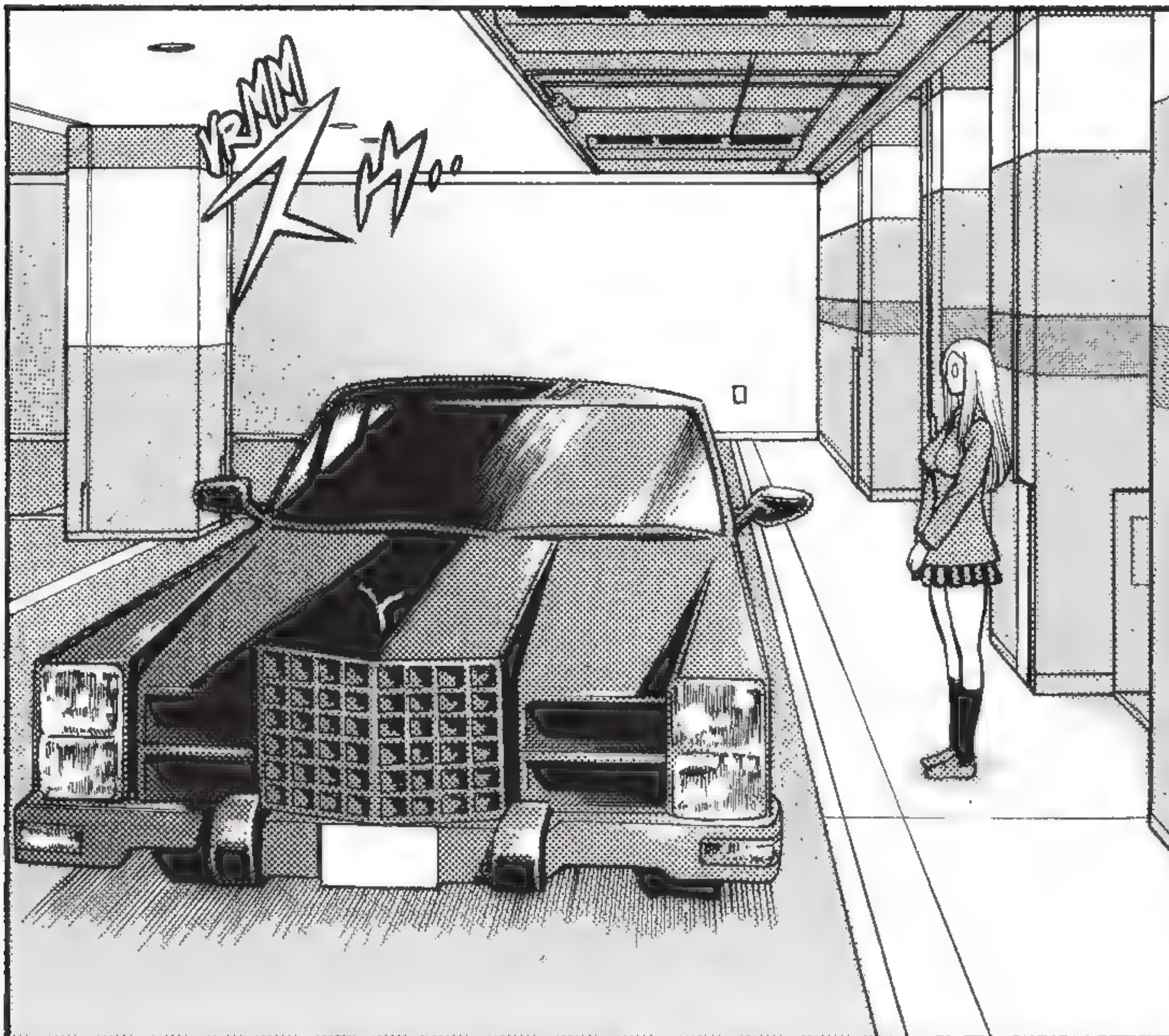
WERE YOU ABLE TO ARRANGE IT?

OH, YES. ONE OTHER THING. ABOUT YOUR REQUEST...











NANAMI...



THE
THOUGHT
THAT
SOMETHING
MIGHT
HAPPEN
TO YOU...
JUST TOOK
ME OVER,
I GUESS.

MY
BODY
MOVED
BEFORE I
REALIZED
WHAT
I WAS
DOING. I
COULDN'T
STOP IT.

NOT IF
THERE
WAS ONE
TINY THING
I COULD
DO TO
KEEP YOU
SAFE FROM
DANGER.



TRYING
TO HANDLE
THAT
INVADER
ALL BY
YOURSELF
WAS
RECKLESS!
I WAS
WORRIED.

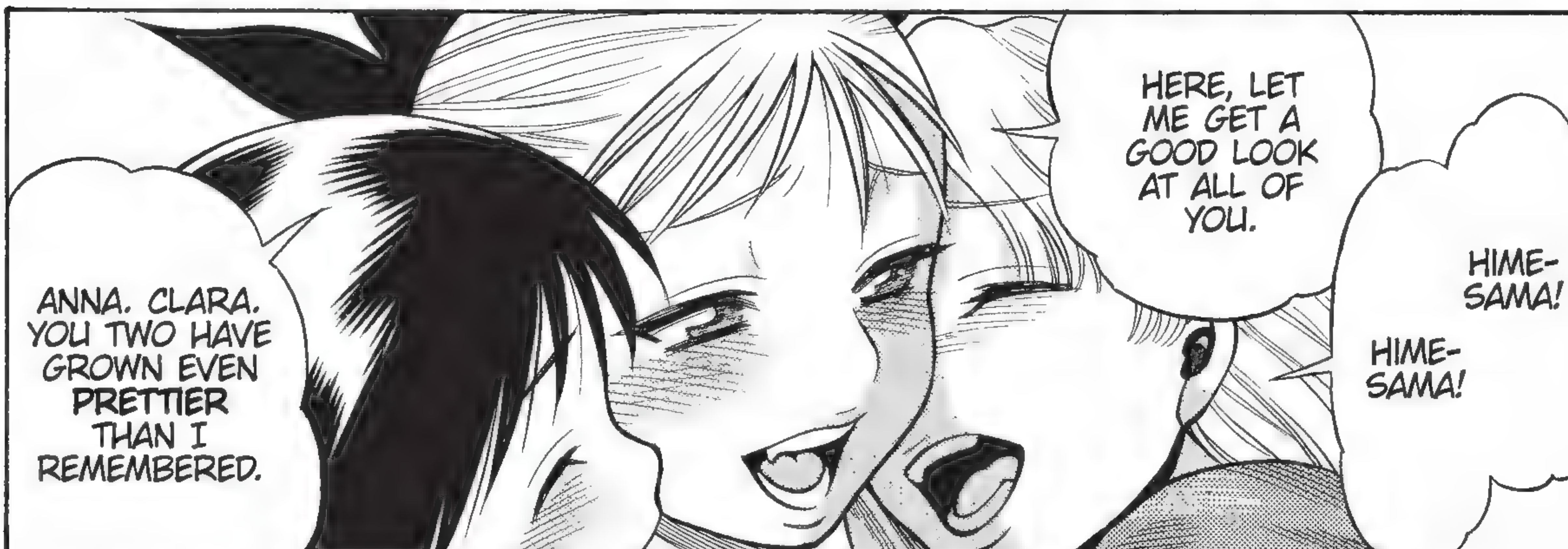
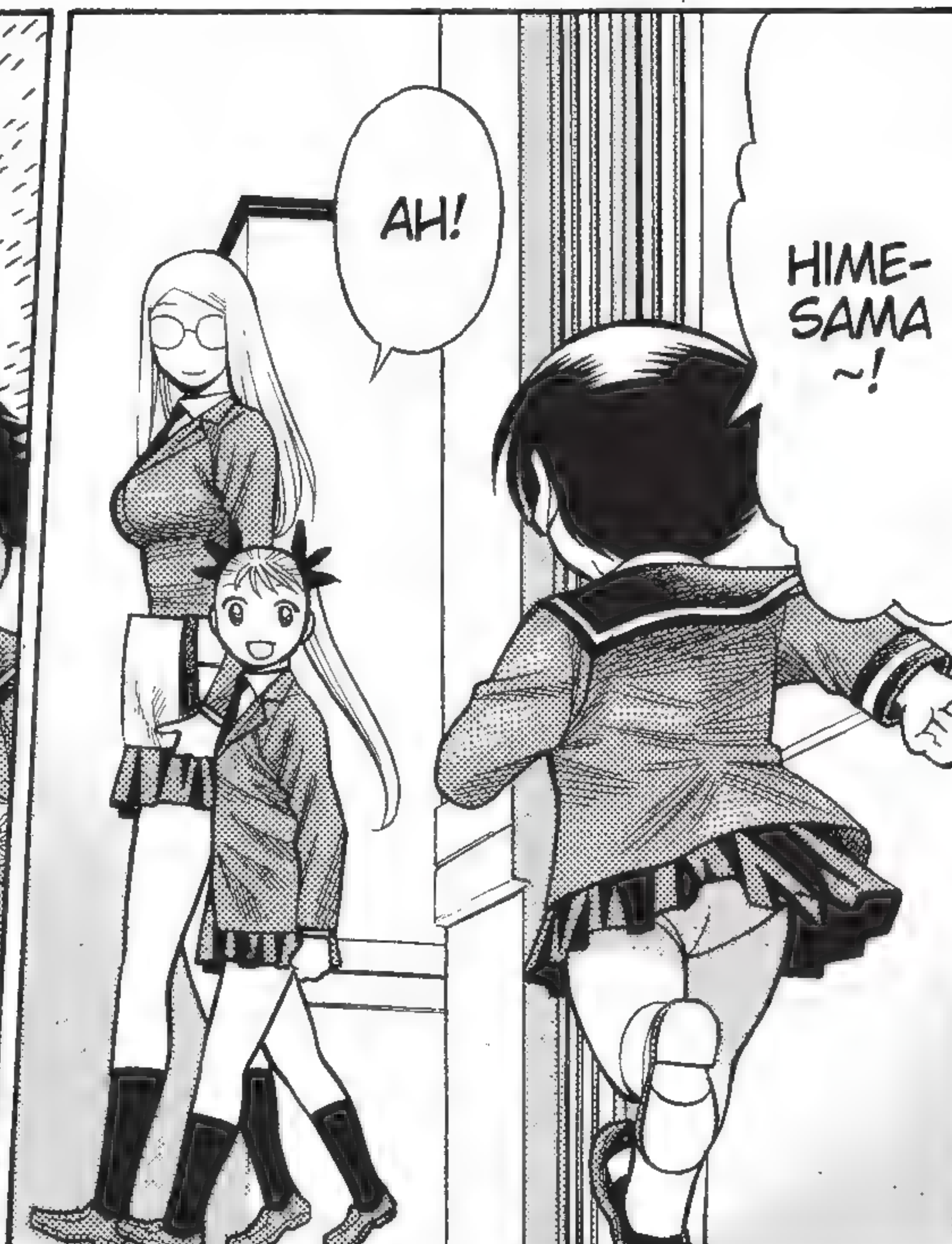


WELL,
YOU
CERTAINLY
KNOW
HOW TO
MAKE ME
BLUSH.



ESPECIALLY...
AKIRA-KUN.

AND I'M
NOT THE
ONLY ONE.
I'M SURE
EVERYONE
WHO SERVES
YOU FEELS
THE SAME
WAY, YOUR
MAJESTY.











HE SAID
I COULD
START
GOING TO
THIS
SCHOOL!

NOW WE
CAN SEE
EACH
OTHER
WHENEVER
WE
WANT!



DAMMIT,
DAD.

WHAT
ARE YOU
UP TO
THIS
TIME...?

SAME DAY,
EAST CHINA
SEA.

THERE.
THAT'S
THE
BOAT.

THIS WAY,
COUNCILOR!!

COAST GUARD

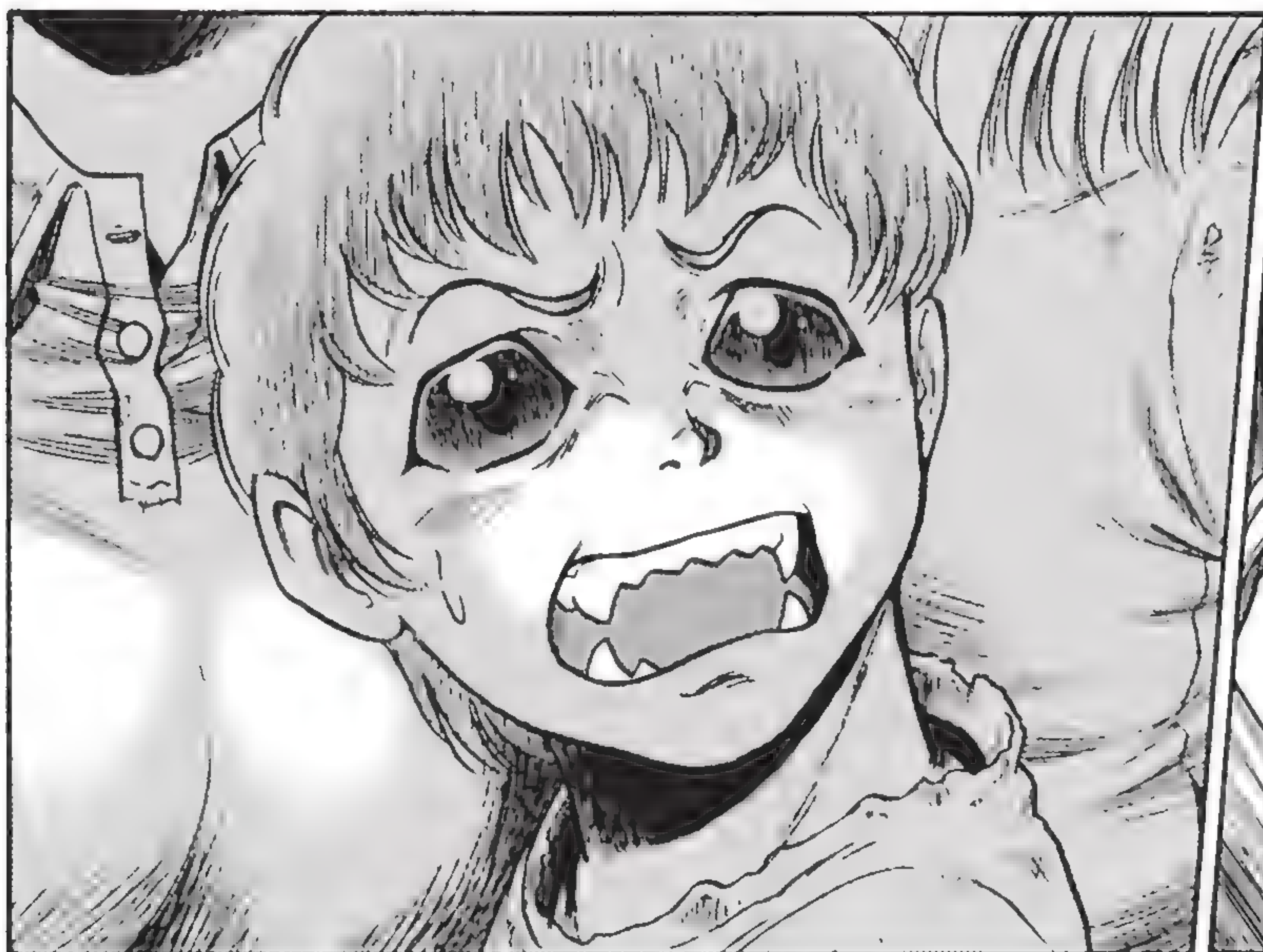
A SITUATION
LIKE THIS
ISN'T
SOMETHING
WE HAVE THE
PROTOCOL
TO DEAL WITH.
NOT YET,
ANYWAY.

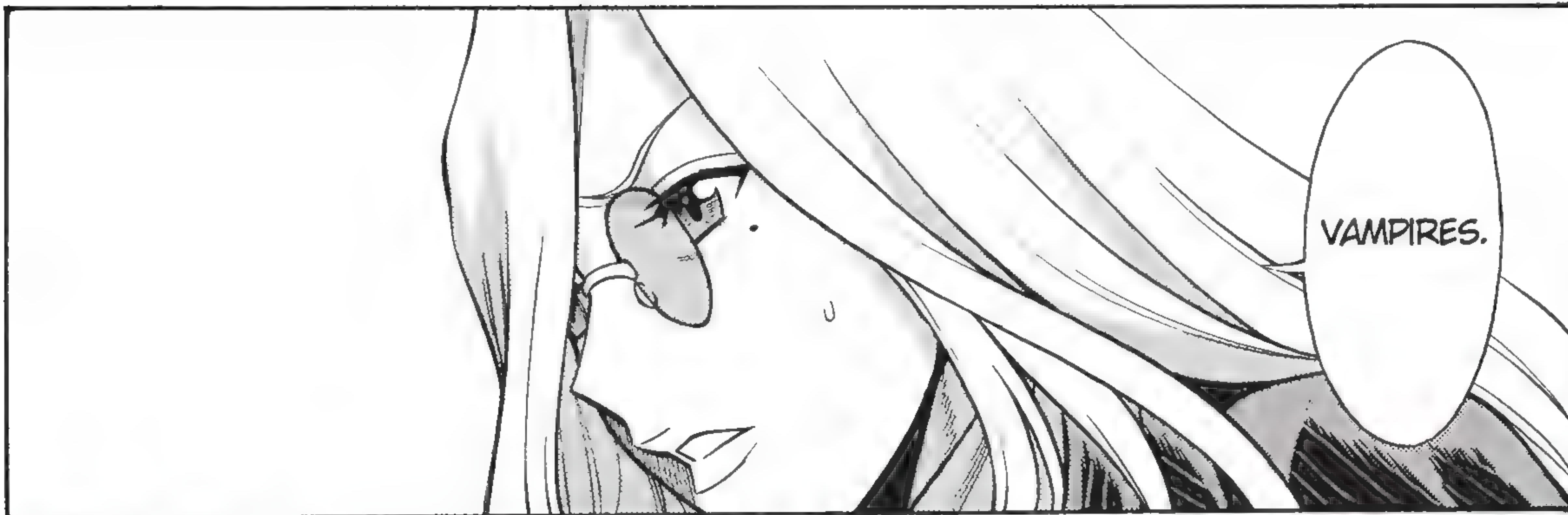
COAST GUARD

THANKS
FOR
COMING
OUT HERE
ON SUCH
SHORT
NOTICE,
MA'AM.

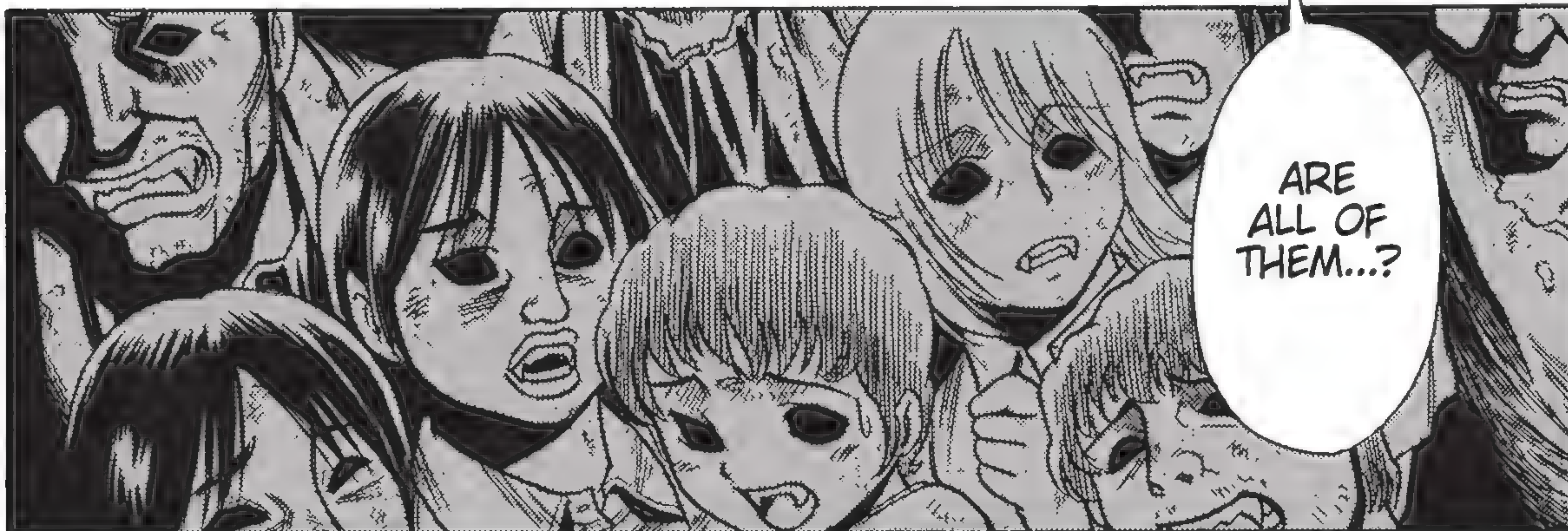
ONCE THE
PATROL
CREW HAS
FINISHED
THEIR
INSPECTION,
WE'LL
MOVE THEM
ONTO A
PROPER
VESSEL.

IT SEEMS
THEY RAN
AFLOUL OF
A STORM
AND HAVE
BEEN
DRIFTING
SINCE
THEN.





VAMPIRES.



ARE
ALL OF
THEM...?



YES.
YOU
ARE...?



ARE
YOU A
JAPANESE
GOVERN-
MENT
OFFICIAL?



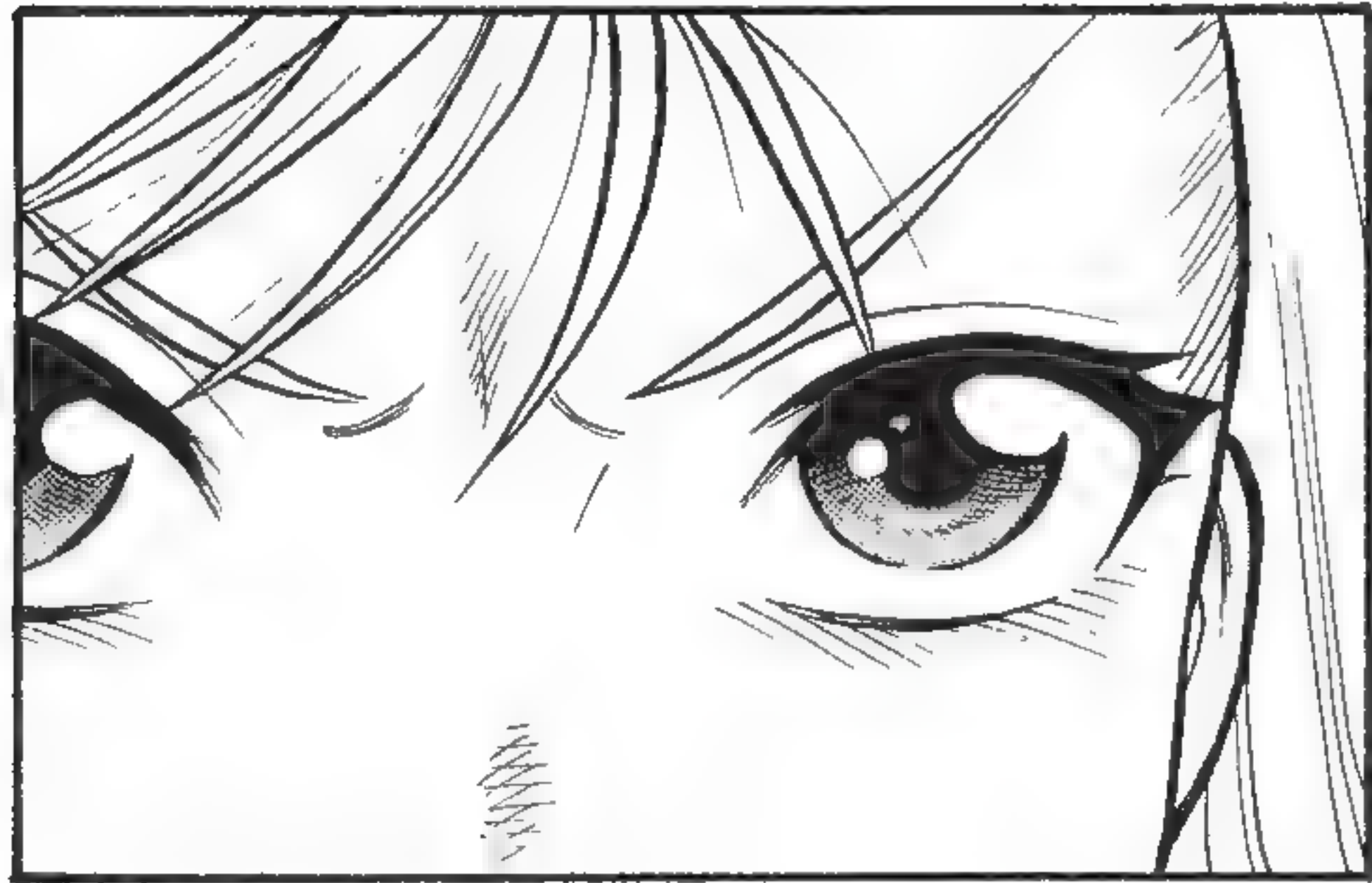
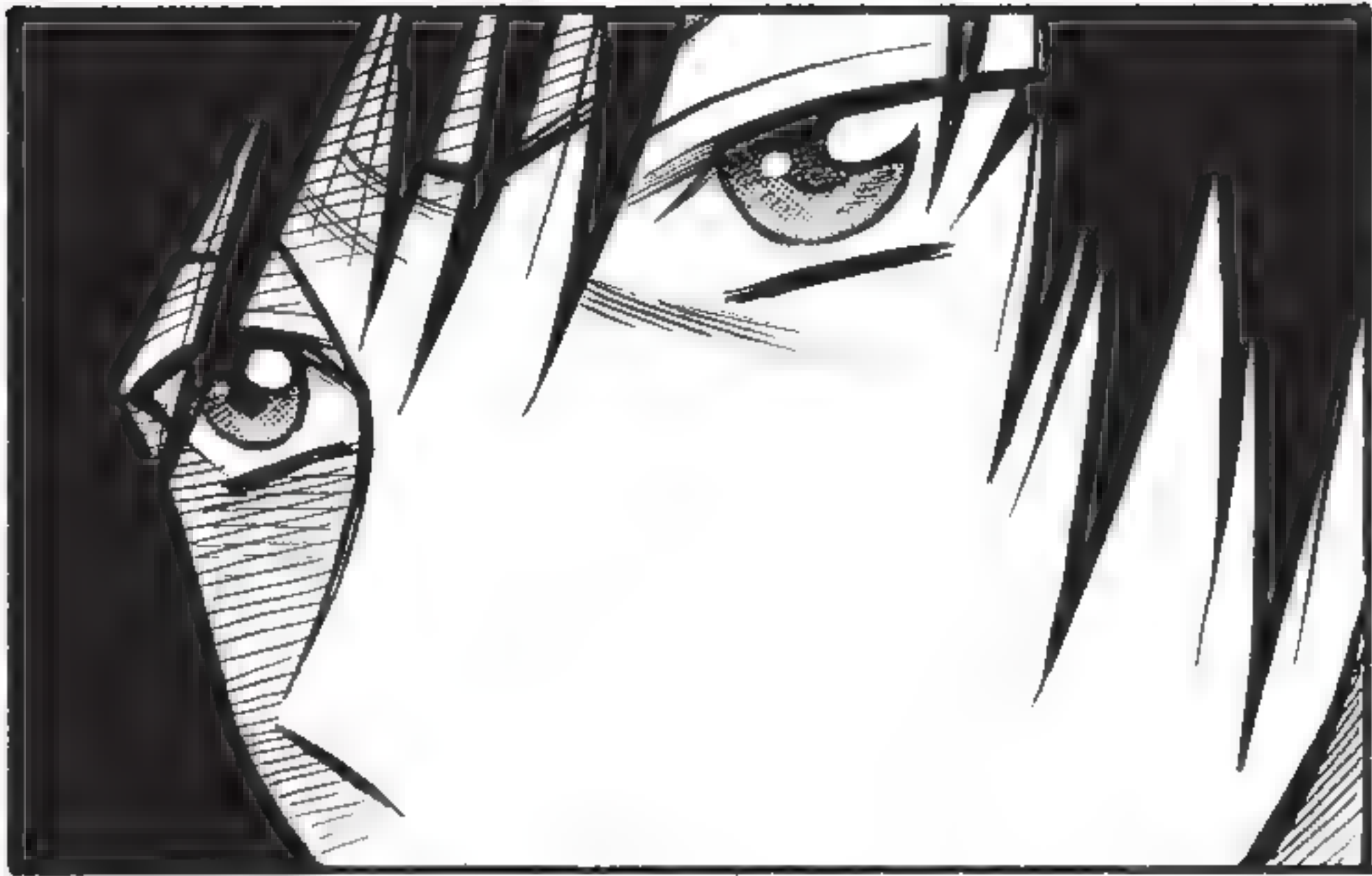
NO,
MA'AM.
ONE IS
HUMAN.

EX-
CLISE
ME.

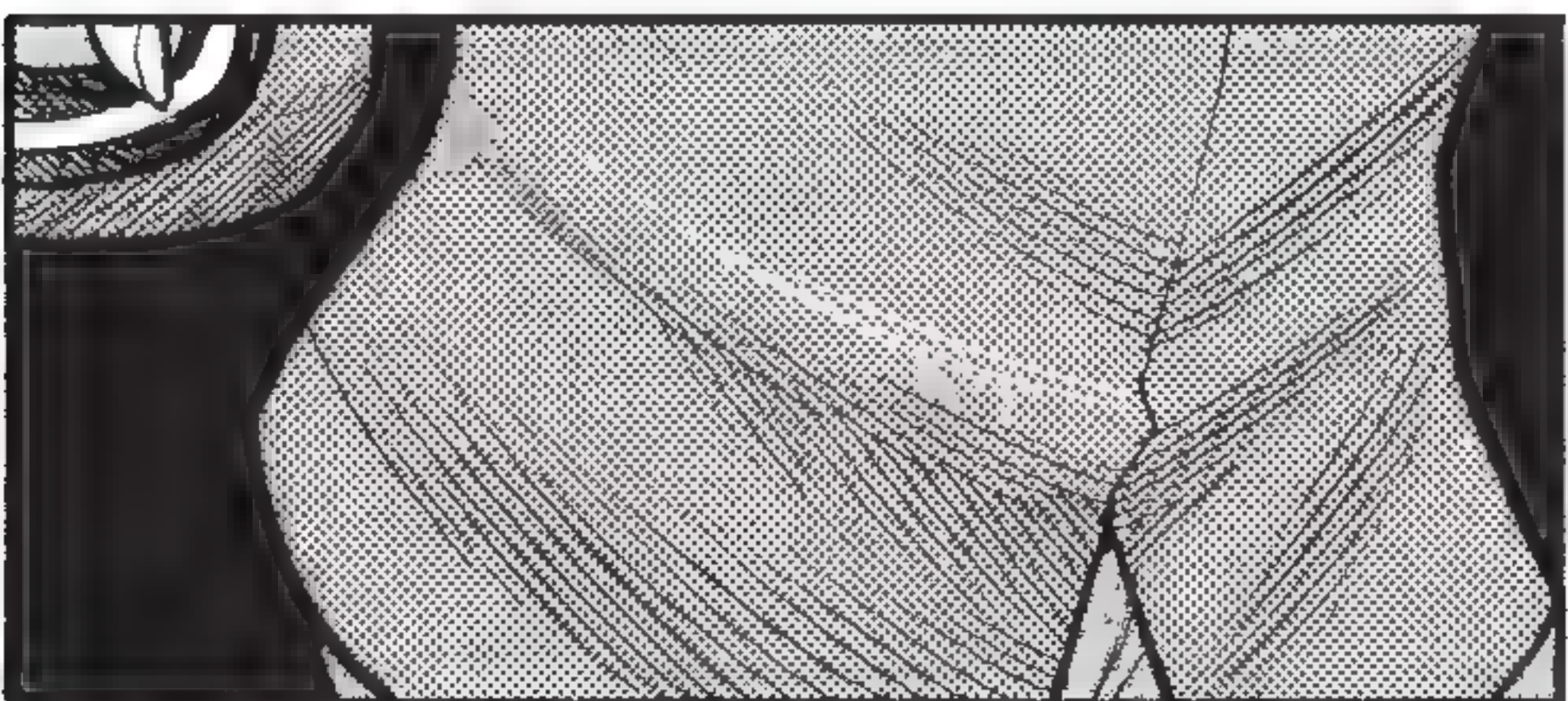


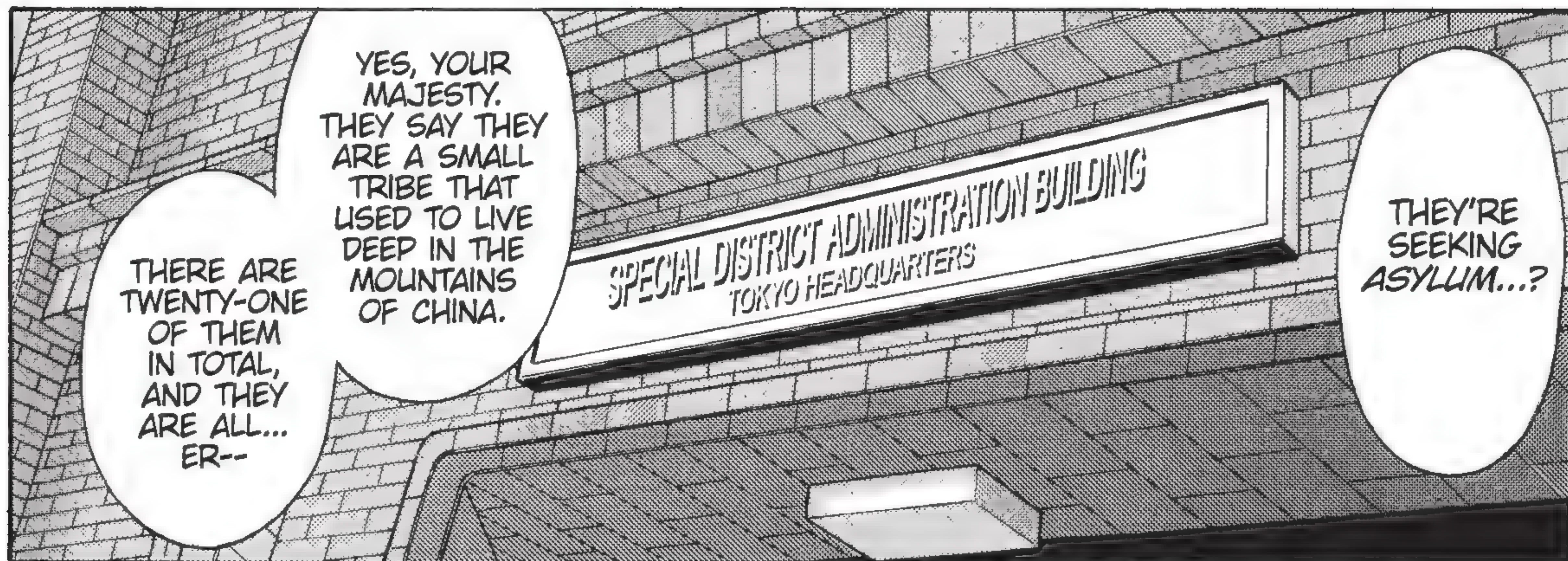
WE HAVE
COME TO THE
VAMPIRE BUND
SEEKING
POLITICAL
ASYLUM!

MY
NAME IS
TATIANNA
HUMOR-
ESQUE.



Chapter 45: Nothing Hurts





THERE ARE TWENTY-ONE OF THEM IN TOTAL, AND THEY ARE ALL... ER--

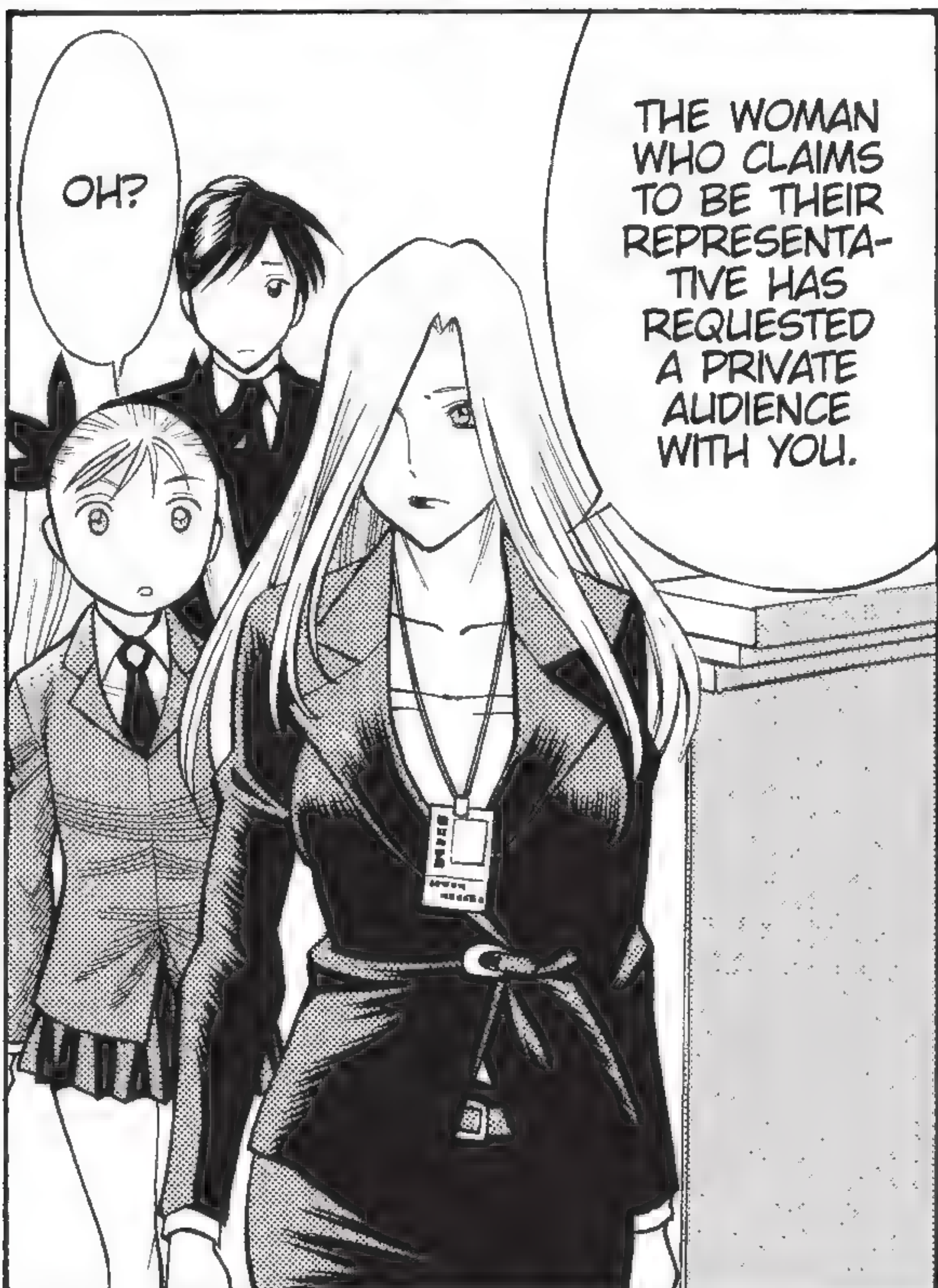
YES, YOUR MAJESTY. THEY SAY THEY ARE A SMALL TRIBE THAT USED TO LIVE DEEP IN THE MOUNTAINS OF CHINA.

SPECIAL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
TOKYO HEADQUARTERS

THEY'RE SEEKING ASYLUM...?



INTERESTING. THOUGH GIVEN CURRENT EVENTS, A PLEA FOR ASYLUM CONCERNS ME.



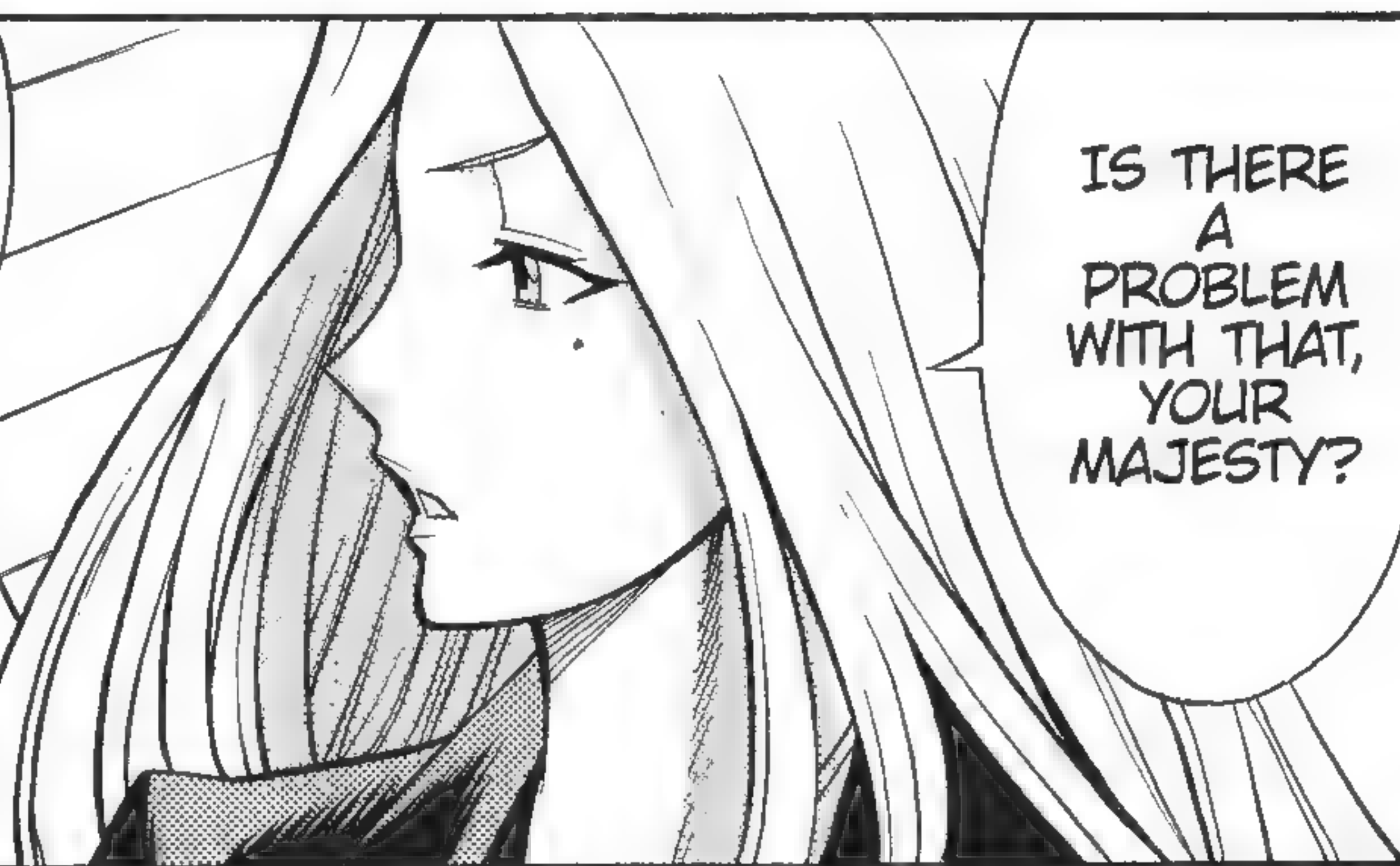
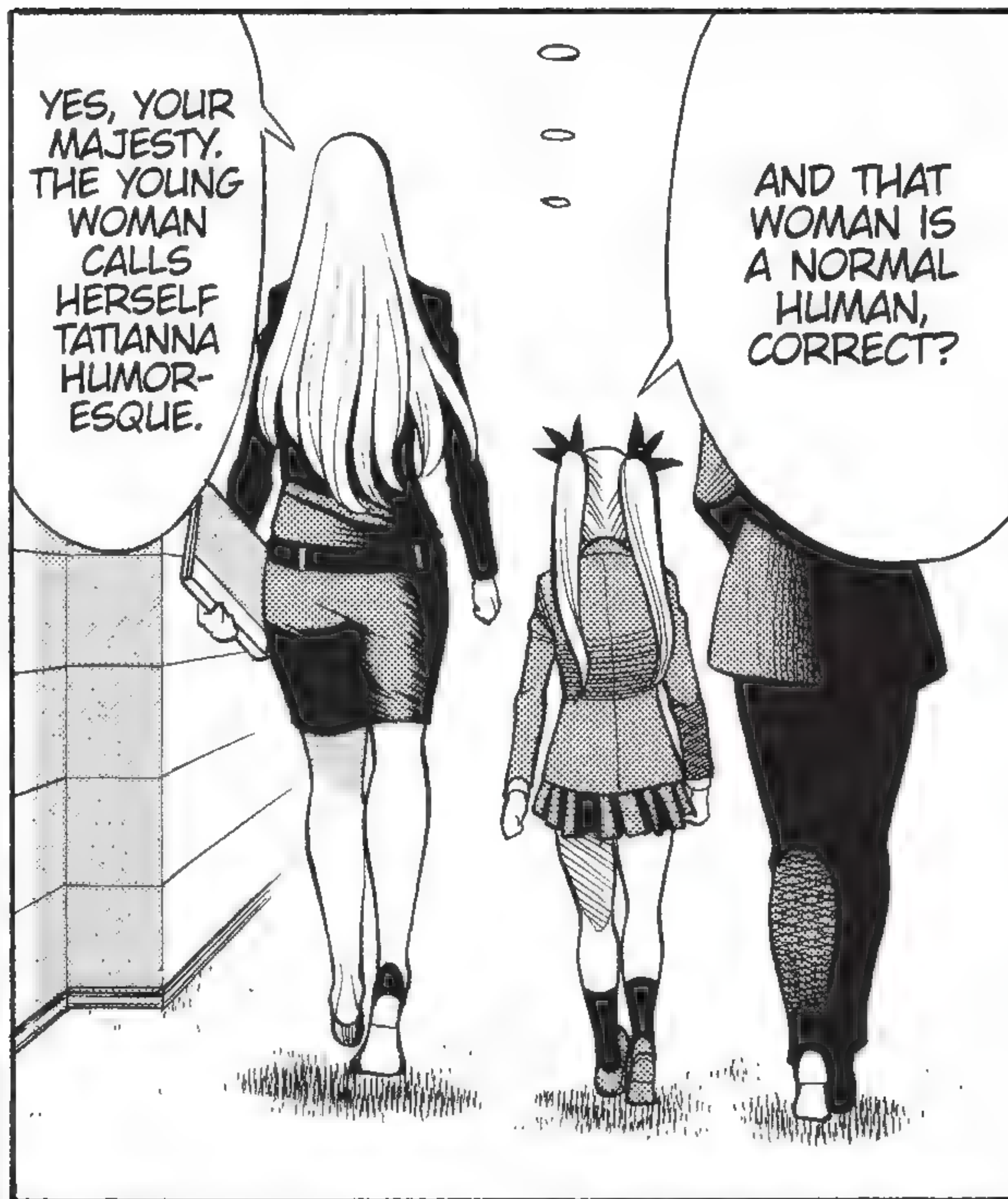
OH?

THE WOMAN WHO CLAIMS TO BE THEIR REPRESENTATIVE HAS REQUESTED A PRIVATE AUDIENCE WITH YOU.



YES, YOUR MAJESTY.

VAMPIRES.





THE DIFFICULTIES YOU FACED MUST HAVE BEEN INCREDIBLE.

IT'S THE LEAST I COULD DO, GIVEN WHAT YOU WENT THROUGH JUST TO REACH OUR SHORES.



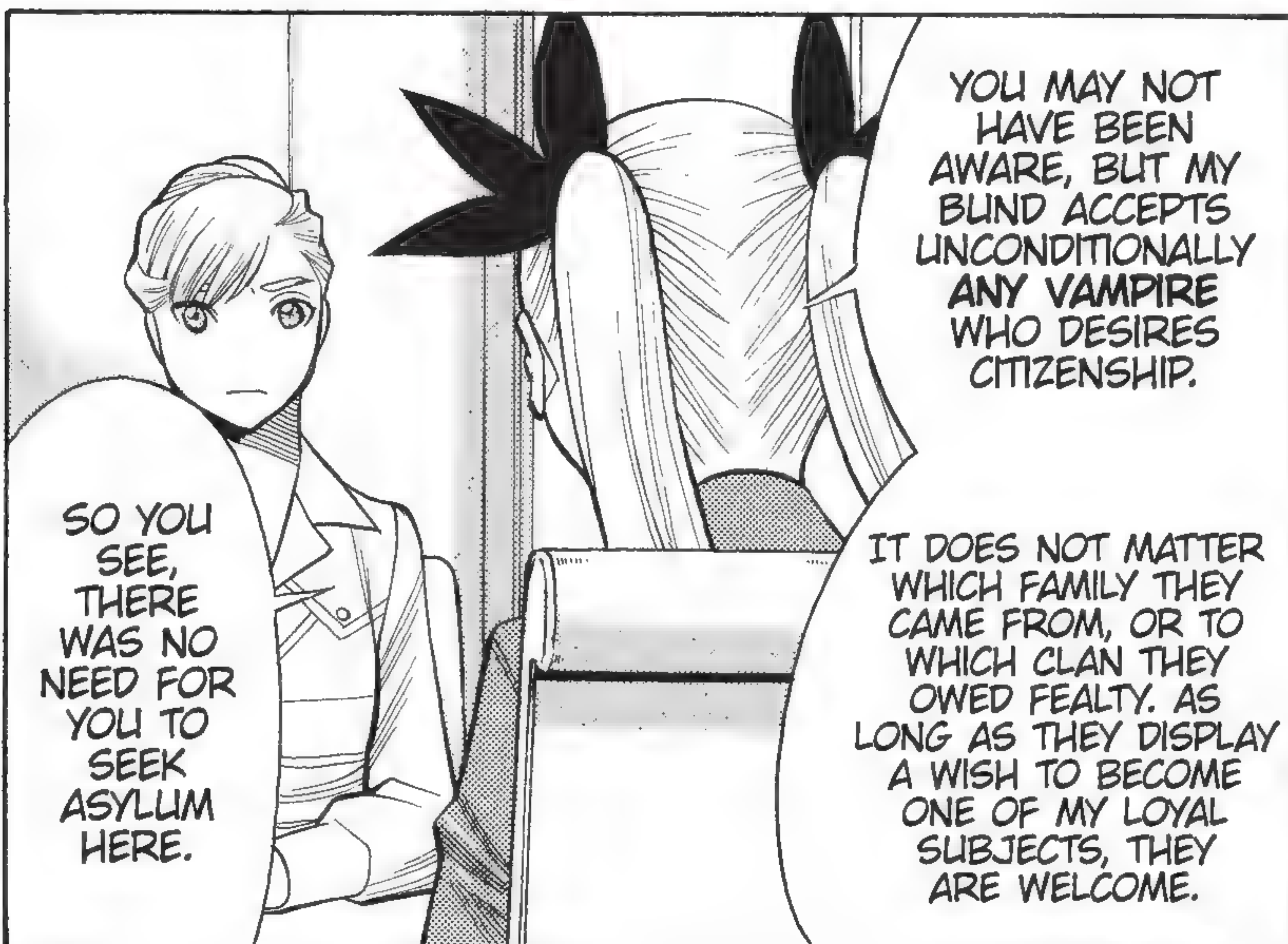
I'M GRATEFUL THAT YOU DEIGNED TO SEE ME, DESPITE THE TERRIBLE IMPROPRIETY OF MY REQUEST.

PRINCESS MINA TEPESES. YOU CAME.



YES ...

THEY WERE.



SO YOU SEE, THERE WAS NO NEED FOR YOU TO SEEK ASYLUM HERE.

YOU MAY NOT HAVE BEEN AWARE, BUT MY BLIND ACCEPTS UNCONDITIONALLY ANY VAMPIRE WHO DESIRES CITIZENSHIP.

IT DOES NOT MATTER WHICH FAMILY THEY CAME FROM, OR TO WHICH CLAN THEY OWED FEALTY. AS LONG AS THEY DISPLAY A WISH TO BECOME ONE OF MY LOYAL SUBJECTS, THEY ARE WELCOME.



WHY THE REQUEST FOR ASYLUM?

I AM VERY CURIOUS ABOUT YOUR REASONS.



THERE IS
A STRONG
REASON.

FOR
US...
NO, FOR
THEM...



WHAT
KIND OF
DISEASE?
WHAT ARE
ITS SYMP-
TOMS?

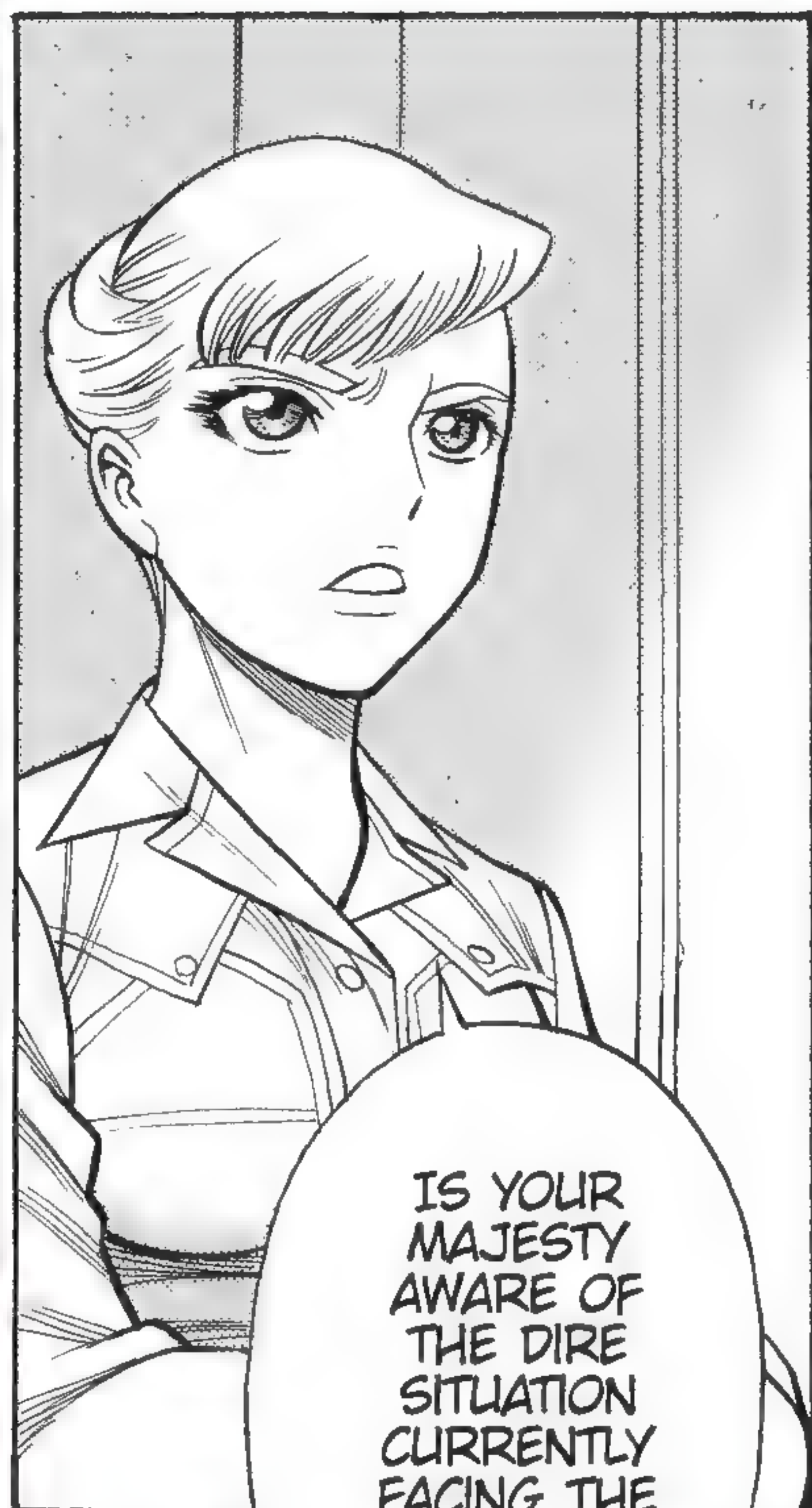


WHILE IT HAS
BEEN LABELED
A "DISEASE," IT
DOES NOTHING
TO HARM
THE VICTIM'S
PHYSICAL
HEALTH OR
WELL-BEING.



AN
EPI-
DEMIC.

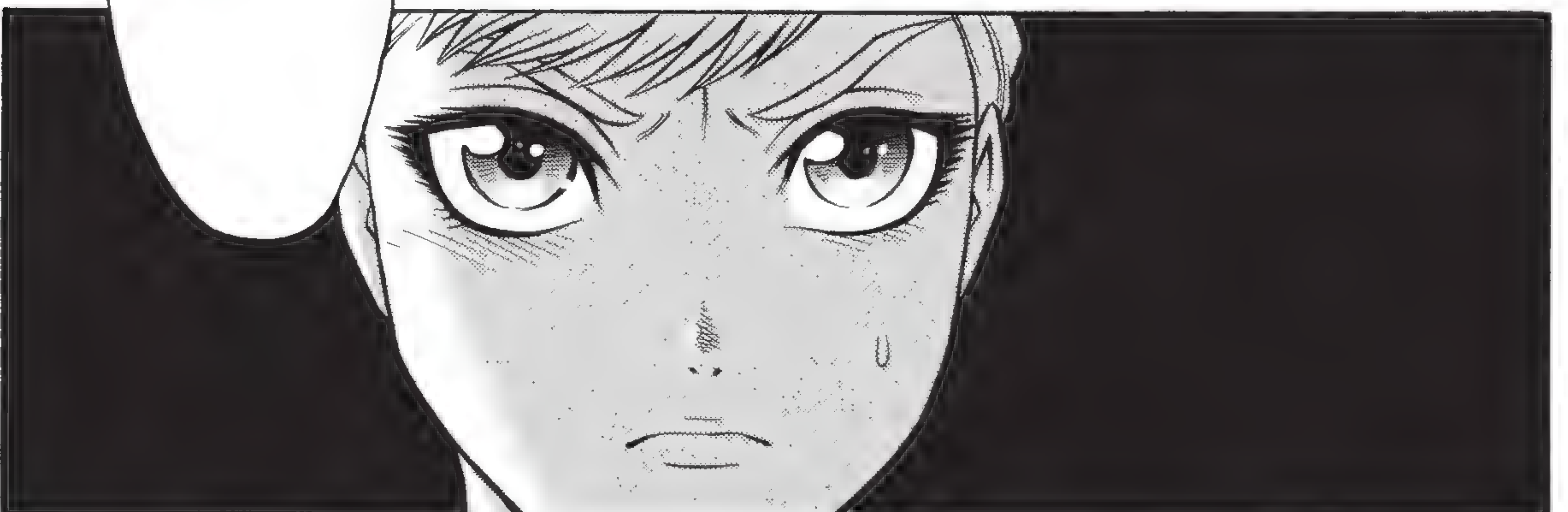
THE DISEASE
STRUCK WITHOUT
WARNING AND
IS SPREADING
THROUGH THE
VAMPIRE POPULATION
LIKE WILDFIRE.
AS OF YET, NO WAY
OF STOPPING--OR
EVEN STEMMING--
ITS ADVANCE
HAS BEEN
DISCOVERED.

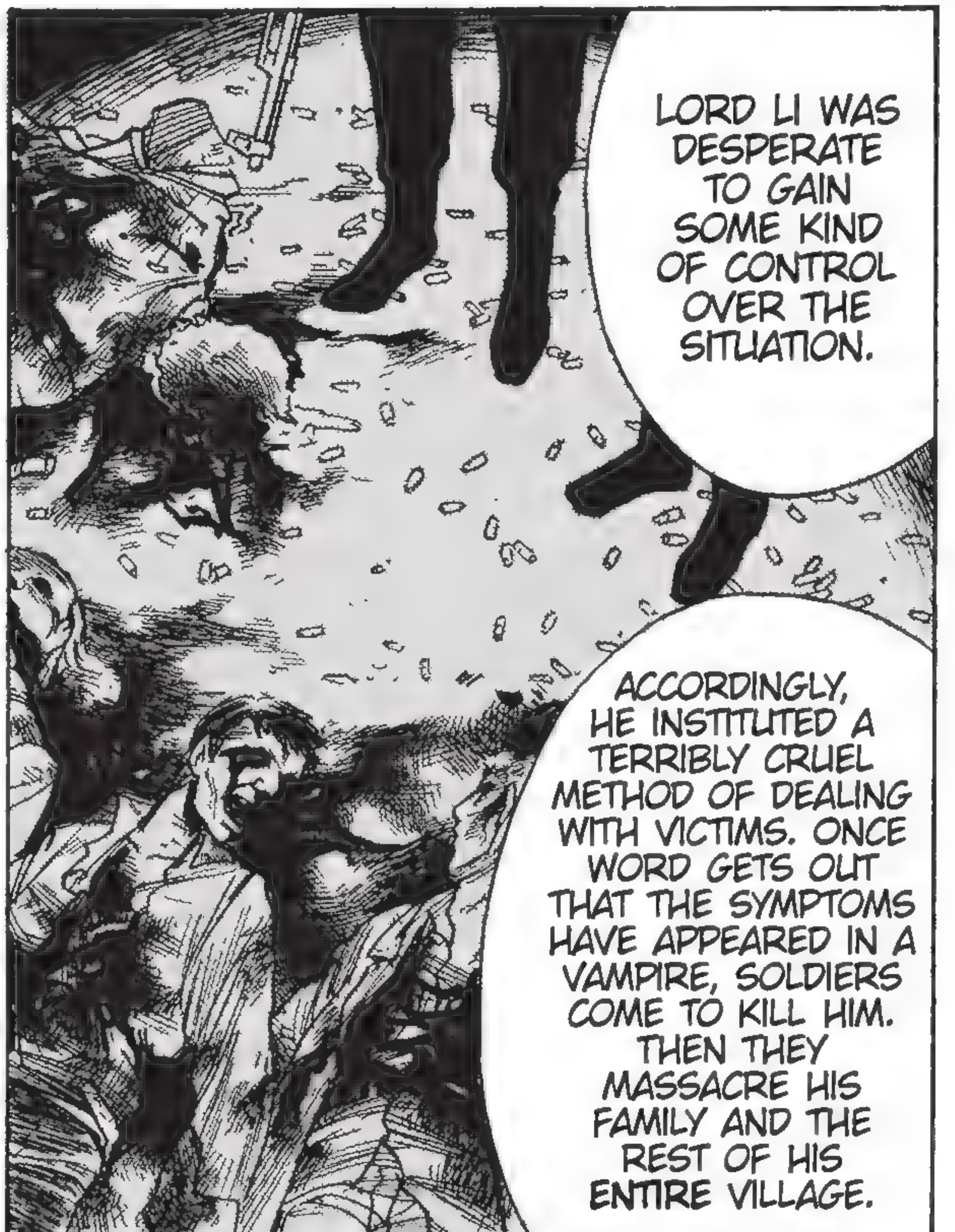
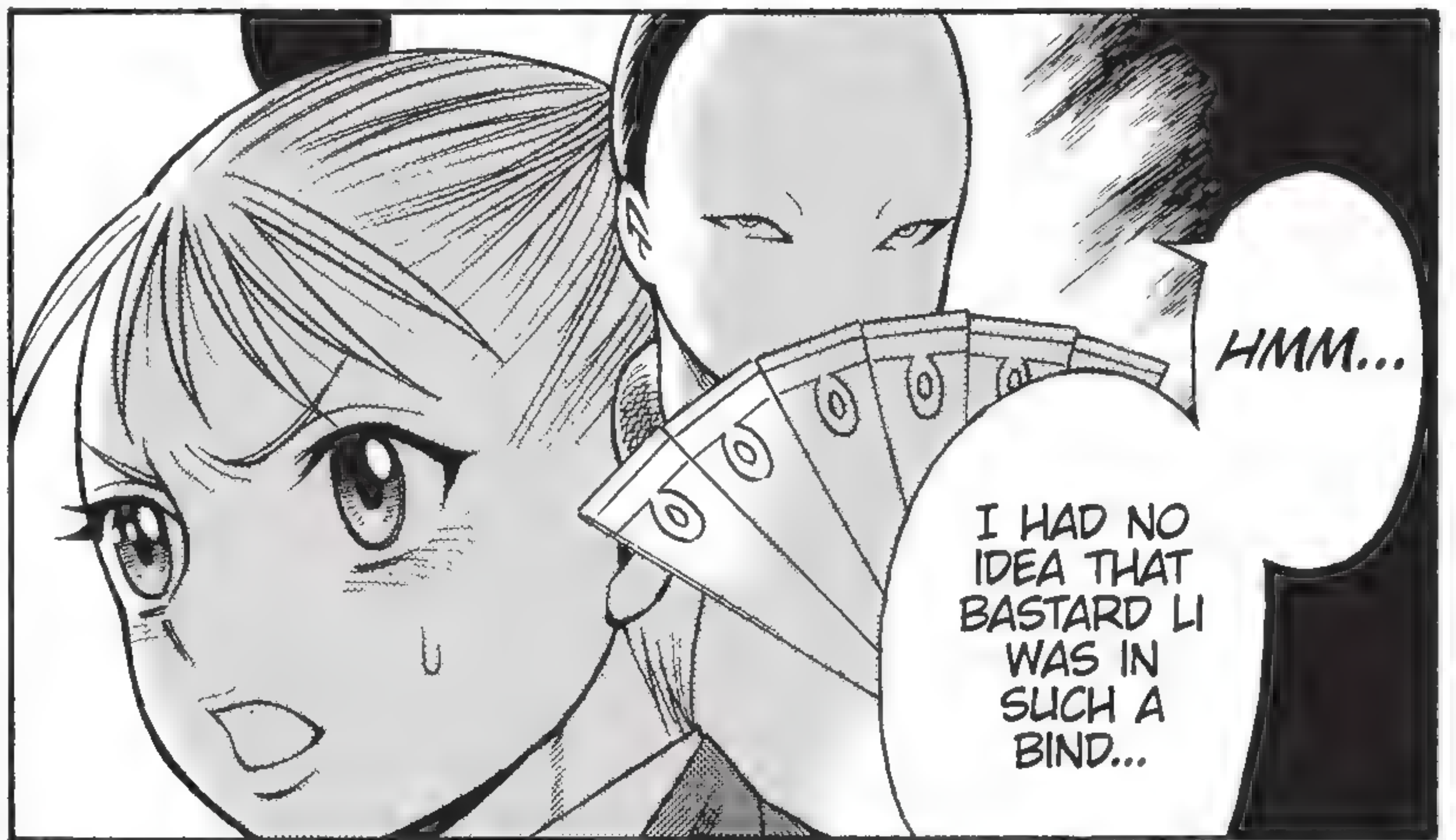


IS YOUR
MAJESTY
AWARE OF
THE DIRE
SITUATION
CURRENTLY
FACING THE
LI CLAN?



WHAT
SITUA-
TION?





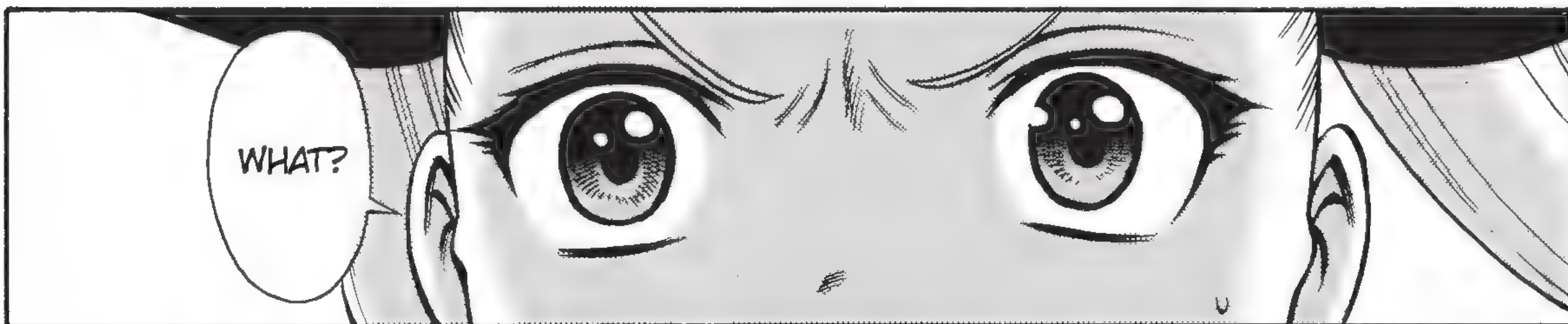


YES, SOME
OF THEM ARE
INFECTED!
BUT THEY
AREN'T
SHOWING ANY
SYMPTOMS!!

PLEASE,
HEAR
ME
OUT!



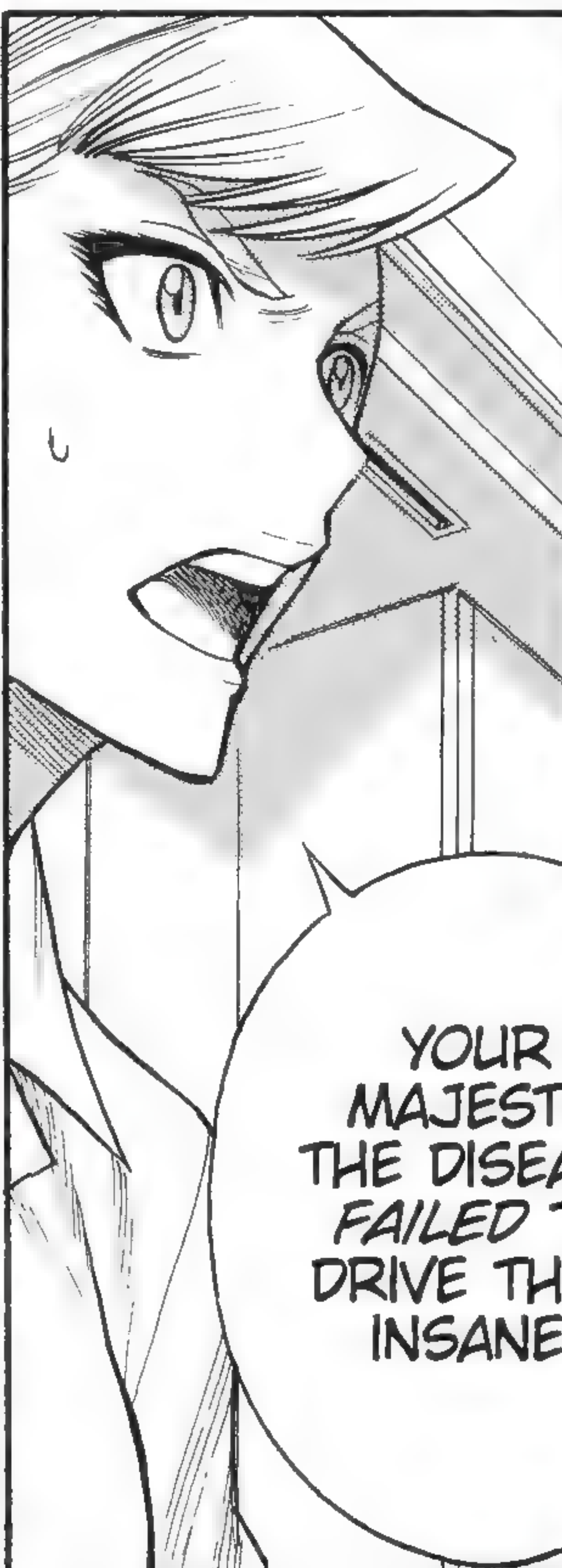
WITH
VAMPIRES
YOU KNEW
FULL WELL
WERE
INFECTED
BY THE
PIED
PIPER?!



WHAT?



SO YOU'RE
SAYING
THAT THESE
VAMPIRES
HAVE SOME
FORM OF
RESISTANCE
TO IT?



YOUR
MAJESTY,
THE DISEASE
FAILED TO
DRIVE THEM
INSANE.



SOME OF
THEM DID
START
FEELING
THE
URGES
TOWARDS
VIOLENCE.

BUT ALL
OF THEM
WERE ABLE
TO
SUPPRESS
THOSE
URGES AND
RETAIN THEIR
SANITY.



YOU
WANT
ME TO
PRO-
TECT
THEM.



YES.
IF LORD LI
WERE EVER
TO DISCOVER
THAT FACT,
IT'S CERTAIN
THAT HE
WOULD USE
WHATEVER
MEANS
NECESSARY
TO CAPTURE
THEM.



THE AID
OF THESE
INDIVIDUALS
WILL BE
INDISPENS-
ABLE!

I BELIEVE
THAT IF
YOUR
MAJESTY
IS TO
COMBAT
THIS DIS-
EASE...



WE SHALL
PROTECT
YOU
TO THE
FULLEST
OF OUR
ABILITY.

ALL RIGHT.
I AGREE
TO ACCEPT
YOUR PLEA
FOR
ASYLUM.

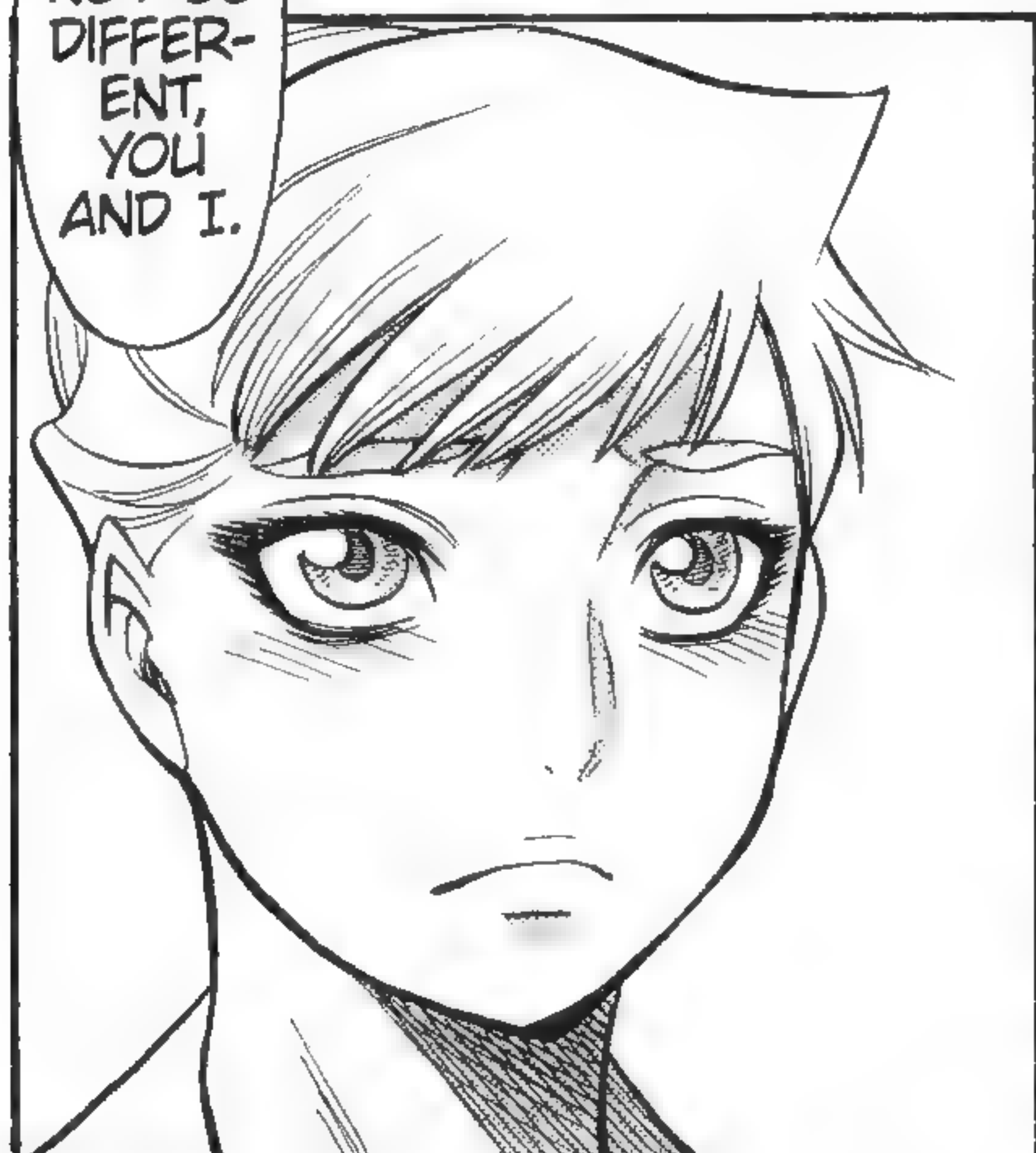


H/N.
IF THERE IS
A WAY TO
SUCCESS-
FULLY
OVERCOME
THE PIED
PIPER...

I
DEFINITELY
WANT THE
MEANS
TO IT
SOMEWHERE
WITHIN
REACH.



I KNOW
WELL THE
PAIN OF
LOSING MY
HOMELAND.



WE
ARE
NOT SO
DIFFER-
ENT,
YOU
AND I.



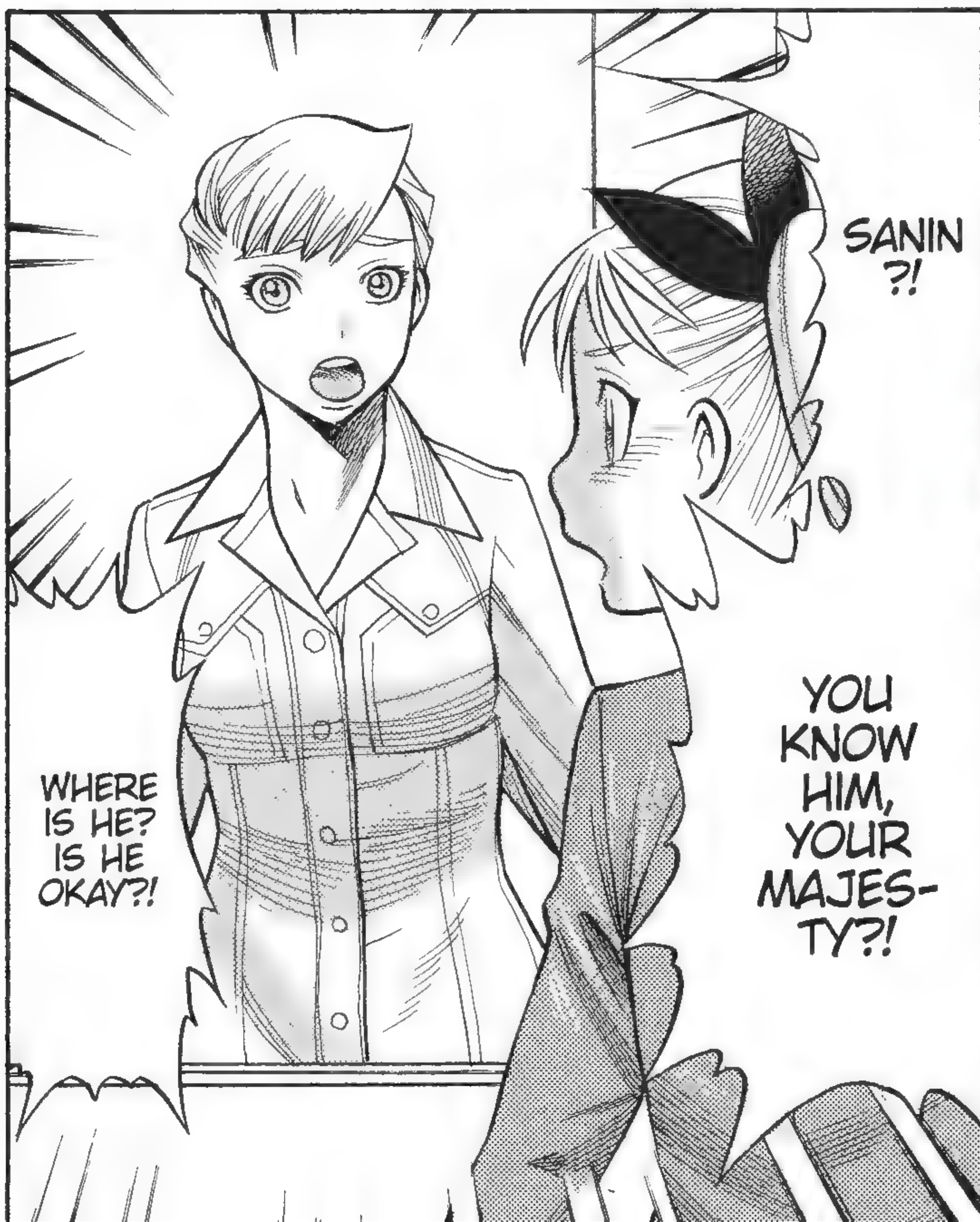
IT'S MORE
THAN I
COULD'VE
HOPED.
I HAVE NO
WORDS
FOR MY
GRATITUDE,
YOUR MAJ-
ESTY.



HOWEVER,
I CANNOT
ALLOW THEM
INTO THE
BUND
PROPER.
THE RISK OF
CONTAGION IS
TOO GREAT.

WILL
THAT
DO?

WE HOLD JOINT
CONTROL OF A
SMALL DISTRICT
NEAR TOKYO WITH
THE JAPANESE
GOVERNMENT.
YOUR PEOPLE
CAN TAKE REFUGE
AT OUR SAFE
HOUSE THERE.
WE WILL STATION
A SQUAD OF
BEOWULF WITH
YOU FOR
SECURITY.



WHERE
IS HE?
IS HE
OKAY?!

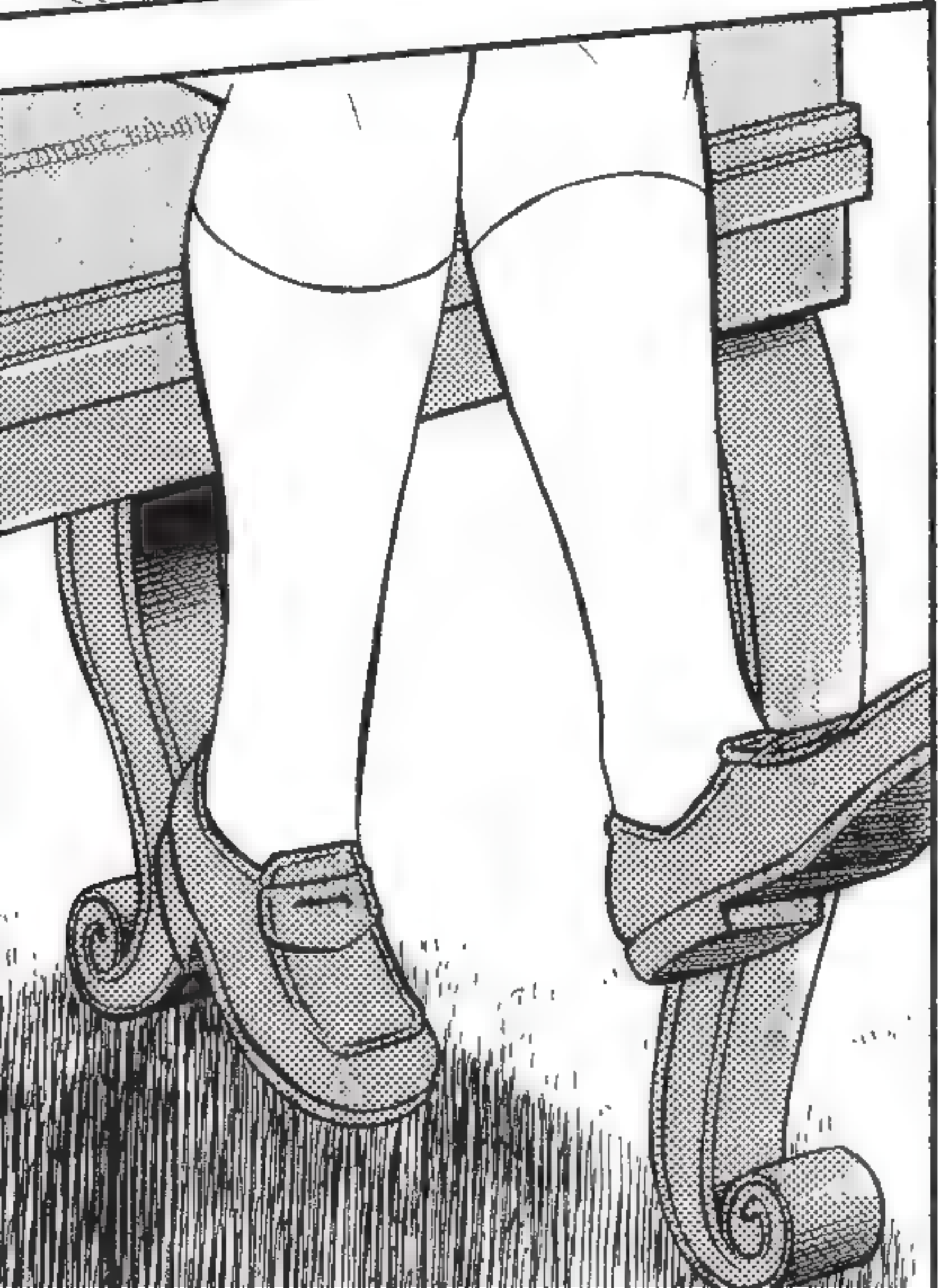
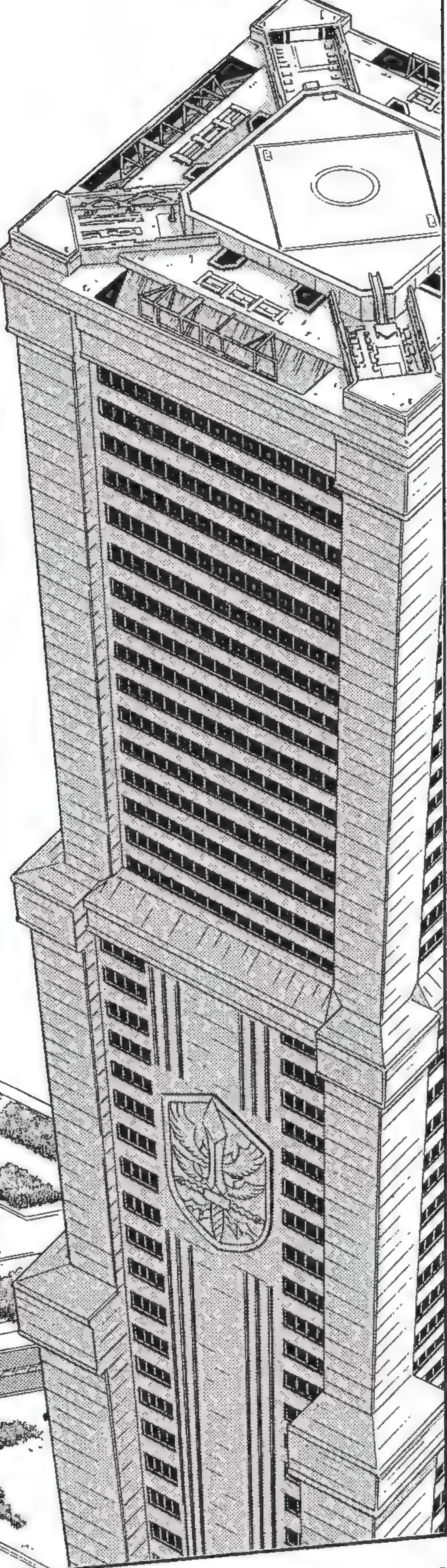
SANIN
?!

YOU
KNOW
HIM,
YOUR
MAJES-
TY?!



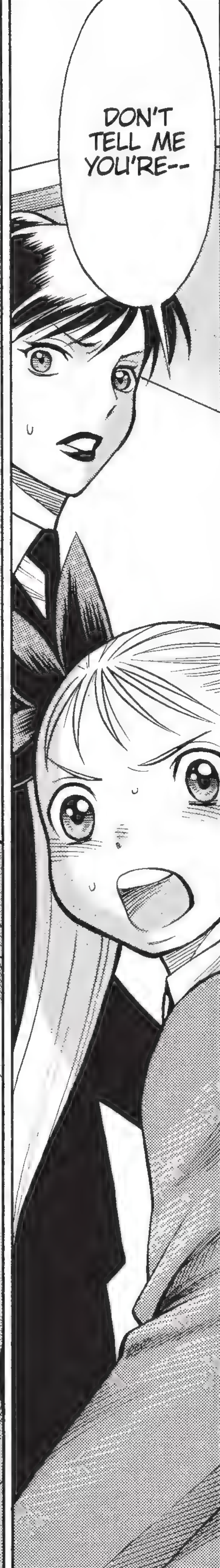
OH...
ONE
LAST
QUES-
TION.

DO YOU
KNOW A
SANIN
HUMOR-
ESQUE?



YES.
I'M HIS
SISTER.

SANIN
HUMOR-
ESQUE
IS MY
LITTLE
BROTHER!!



DON'T
TELL ME
YOU'RE--





AM I
NOT
ENOUGH
?!

NECES-
SARY
HOW?!



THAT
IS ALL.

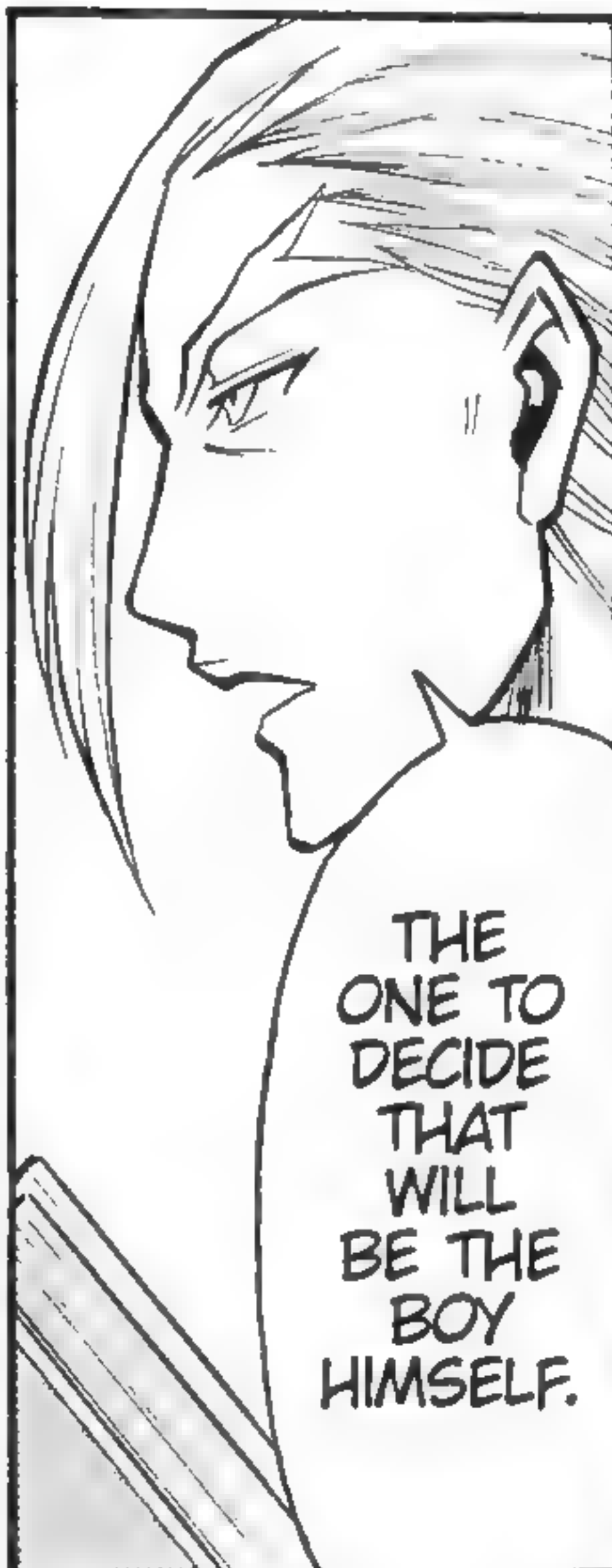
BECAUSE
IT WAS NECES-
SARY.



OR ARE
YOU JUST
GOING TO
KEEP
TAKING
THINGS
AWAY FROM
MOM UNTIL
THERE'S
NOTHING
LEFT?



HE'S
ONLY
SEVEN
YEARS
OLD!!

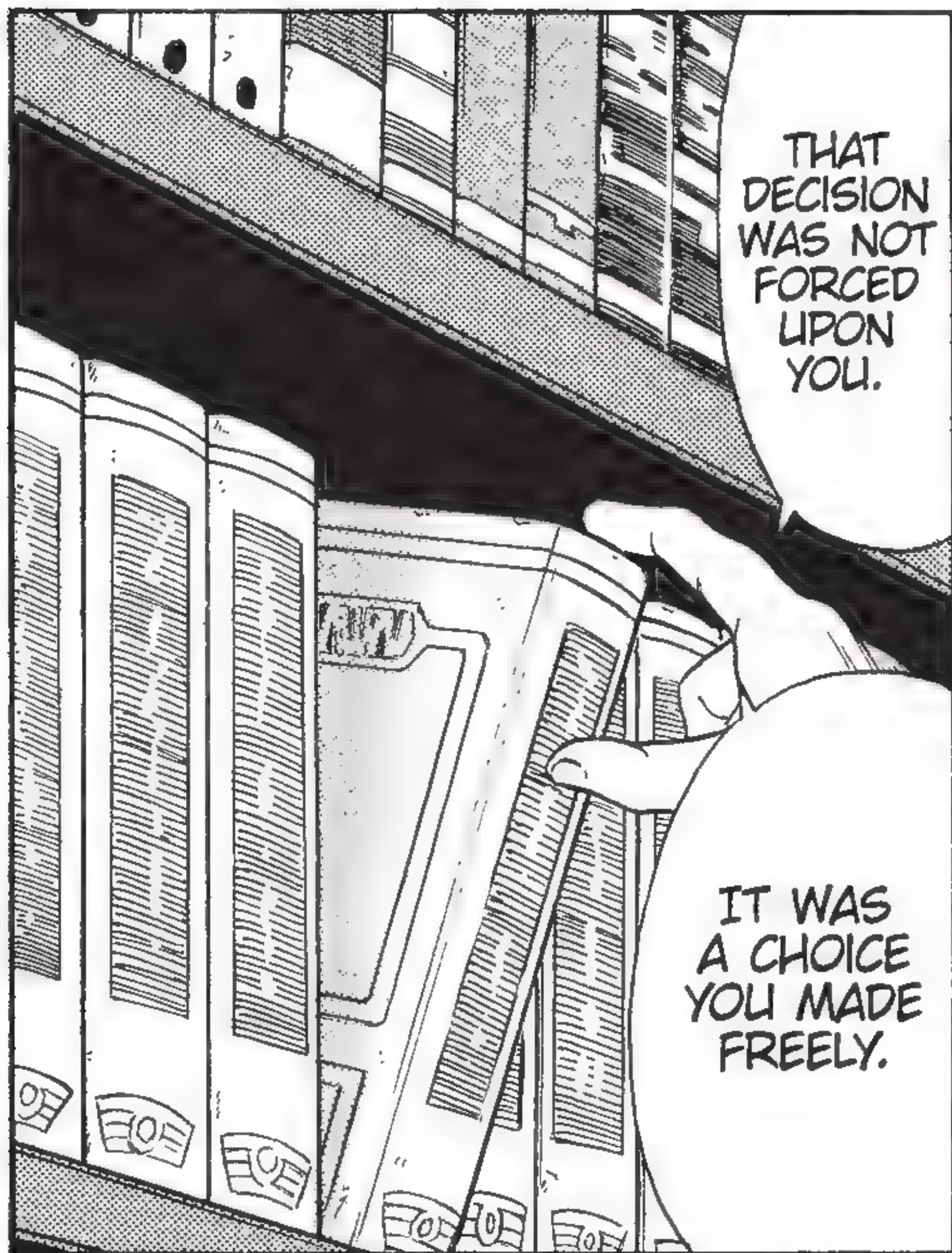


THE
ONE TO
DECIDE
THAT
WILL
BE THE
BOY
HIMSELF.



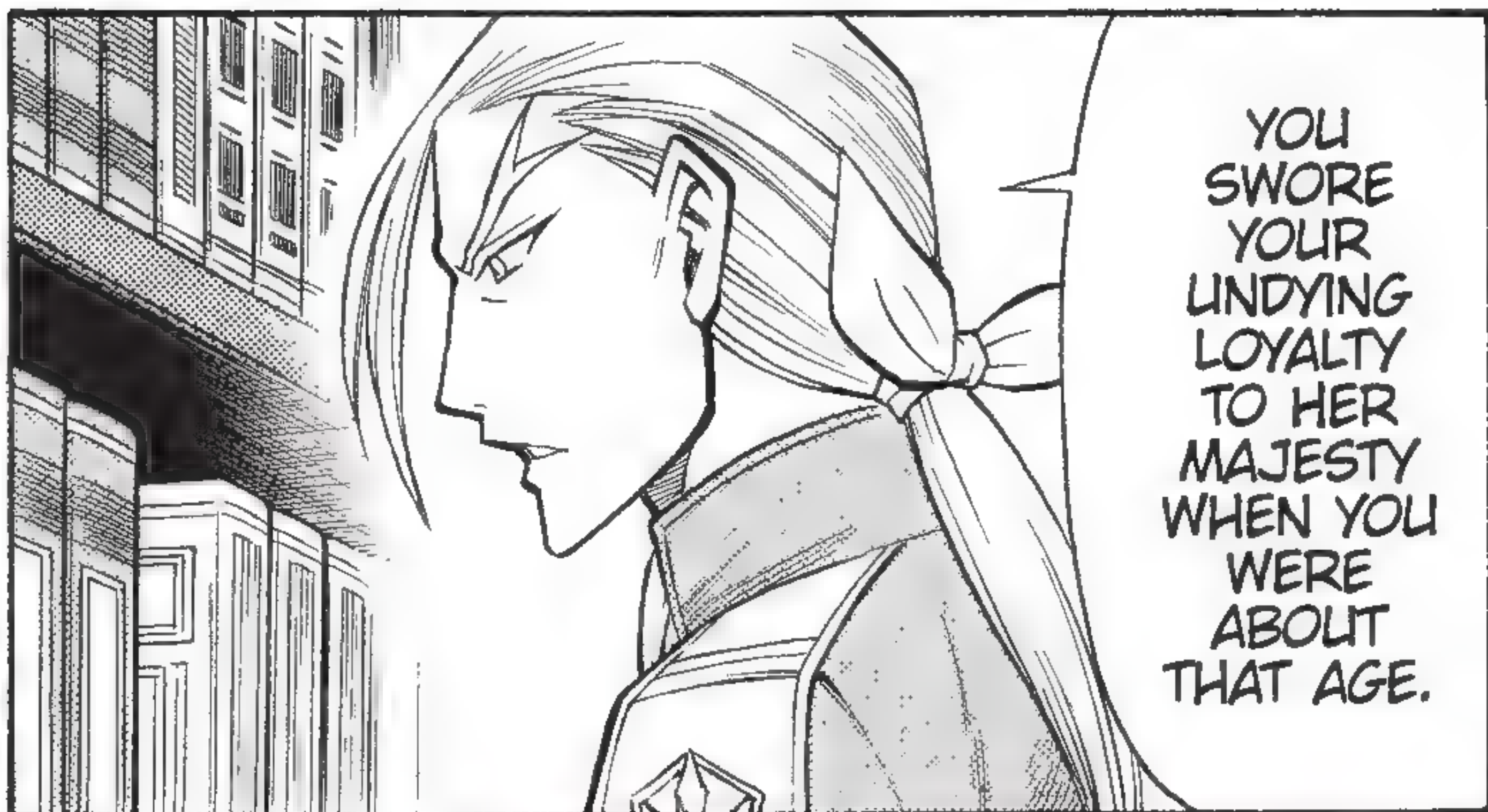
LEAVE
YUUKI
OUT OF
THIS...

HAVING
ME
HERE IS
PLENTY.
IT HAS
TO BE!



THAT
DECISION
WAS NOT
FORCED
UPON
YOU.

IT WAS
A CHOICE
YOU MADE
FREELY.



YOU
SWORE
YOUR
UNDYING
LOYALTY
TO HER
MAJESTY
WHEN YOU
WERE
ABOUT
THAT AGE.



B-BUT
THAT--



AND
KNOWING
YOU, THAT
WAS
PROBABLY
ALL PLANNED
OUT, TOO.

BECAUSE
I
BELIEVED
IT WAS
THE RIGHT
CHOICE.

YES.
IT
WAS.



AND YOU
WILL
HAVE A
PROB-
LEM!!

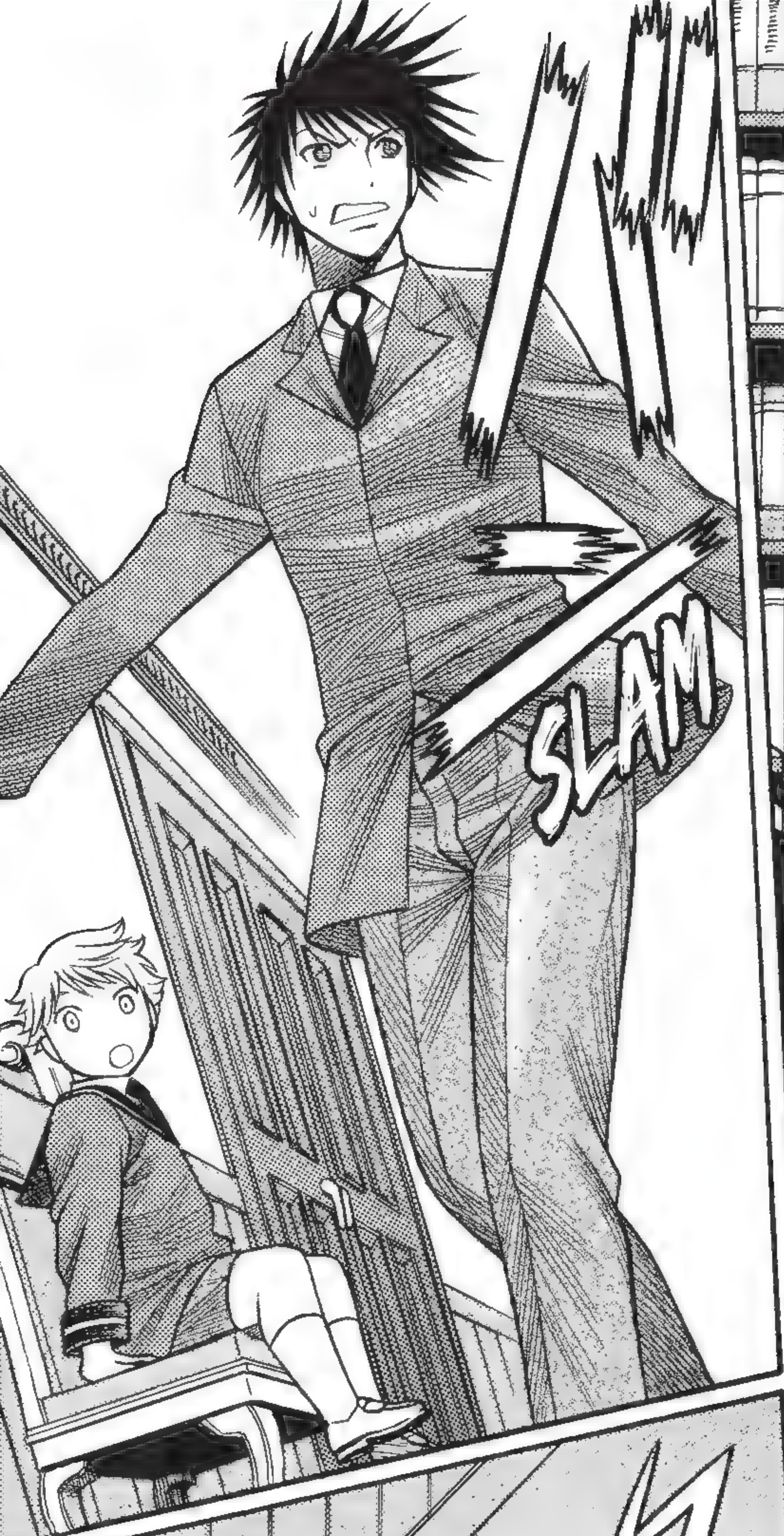
DO
ANYTHING
MORE TO
SACRIFICE
THOSE TWO
FOR YOUR
INSANE
LOYALTY TO
HIME-SAN...



BUT
Y'KNOW,
THAT'S
OKAY.
I'VE
MADE MY
PEACE
WITH IT.

BUT MOM
AND
YULHI
ARE DIF-
FERENT!!

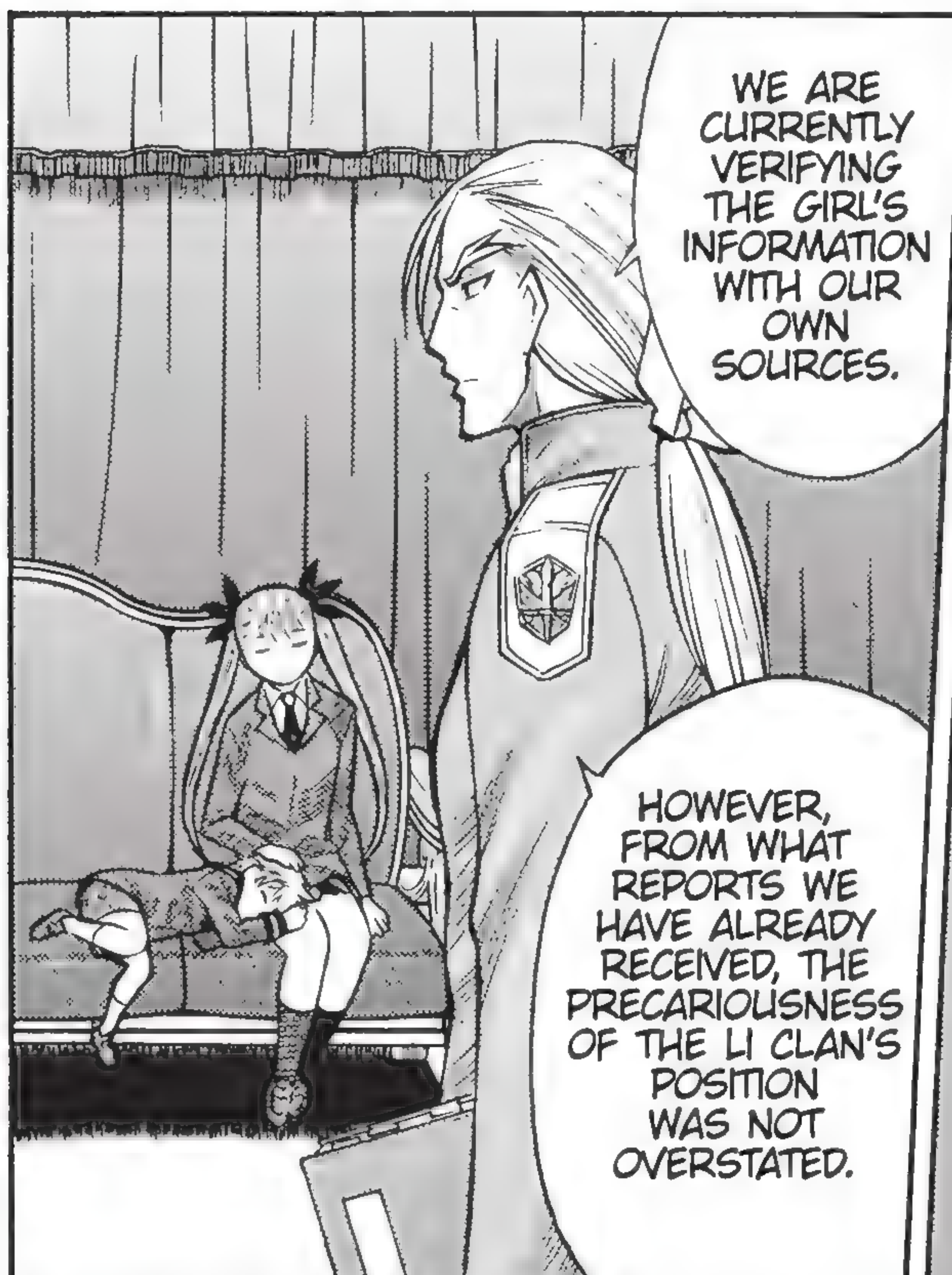
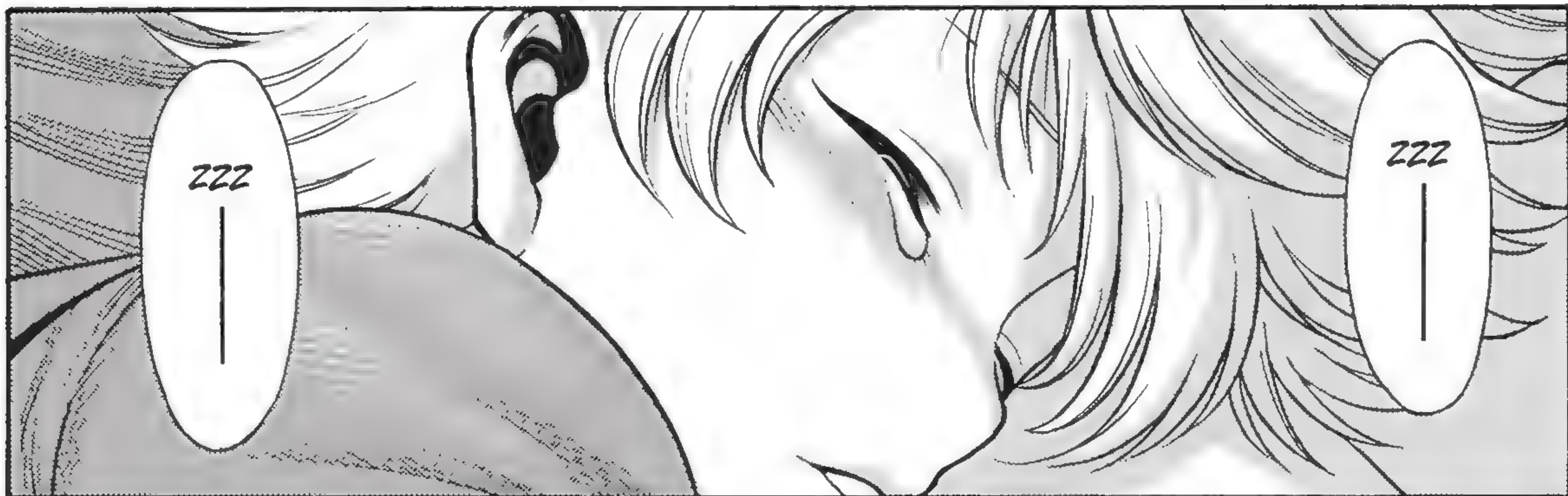
I'LL
FOLLOW
YOU AND
HIME-SAN
ALL THE
WAY DOWN
TO THE
DEPTHS OF
HELL AND
BACK.



THAT'S
IT!







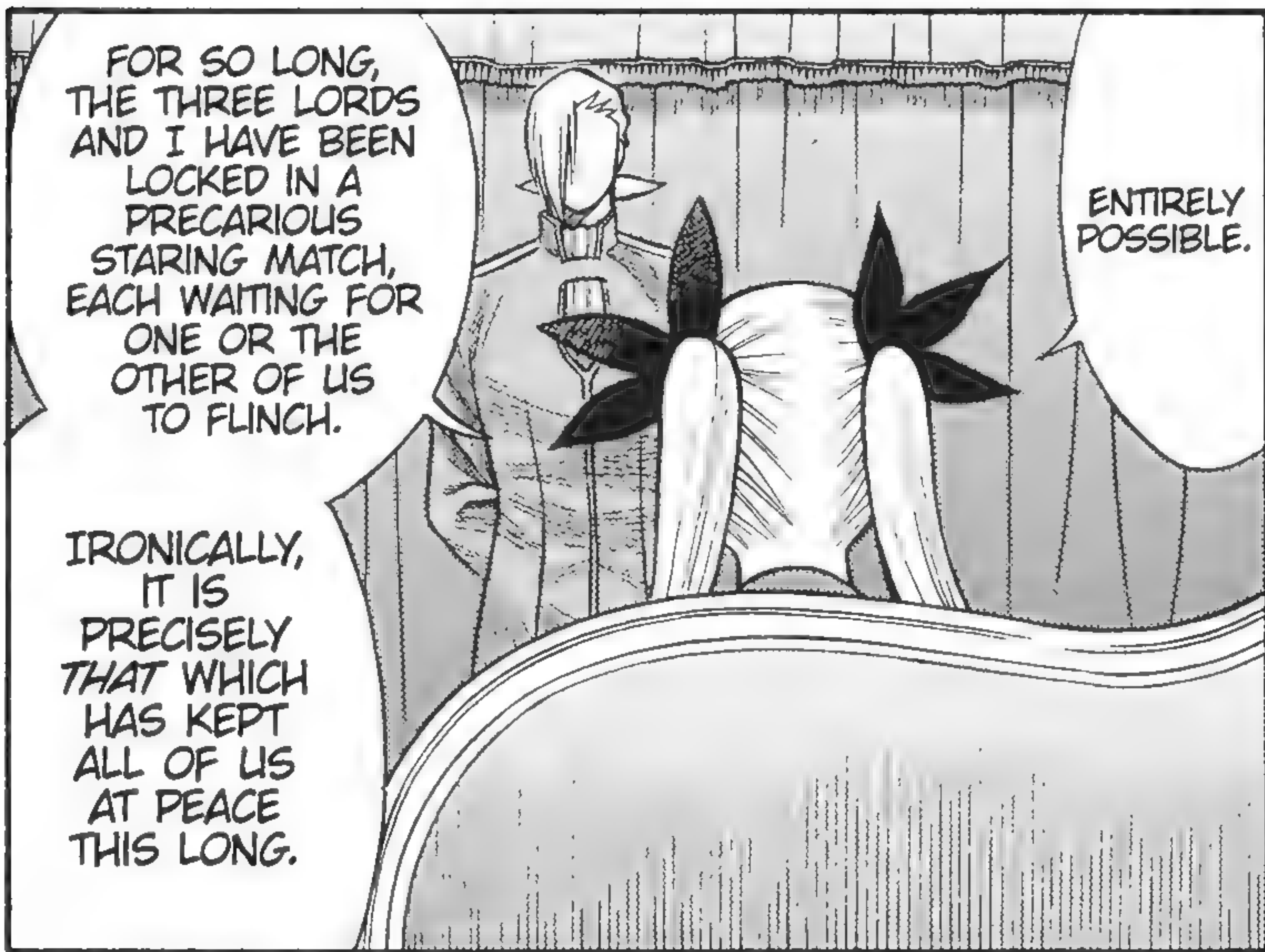


THIS MAY SOUND EXTREME, BUT PERHAPS THEY ARE MEANT AS AN ATTACK ON THE VAMPIRE RACE AS A WHOLE.



THIS FORCES US TO COMPLETELY REEVALUATE THESE NANO-MACHINES AND THEIR POSSIBLE PURPOSE.

WE HAD PREVIOUSLY BELIEVED THEY WERE SIMPLY PART OF A PLOT BY THE THREE LORDS TO SABOTAGE MY BUND, BUT SEEING AS LI NOW SUFFERS FROM THEM AS WELL, OBVIOUSLY THAT IS NOT THE CASE.



FOR SO LONG, THE THREE LORDS AND I HAVE BEEN LOCKED IN A PRECARIOUS STARING MATCH, EACH WAITING FOR ONE OR THE OTHER OF US TO FLINCH.

IRONICALLY, IT IS PRECISELY THAT WHICH HAS KEPT ALL OF US AT PEACE THIS LONG.

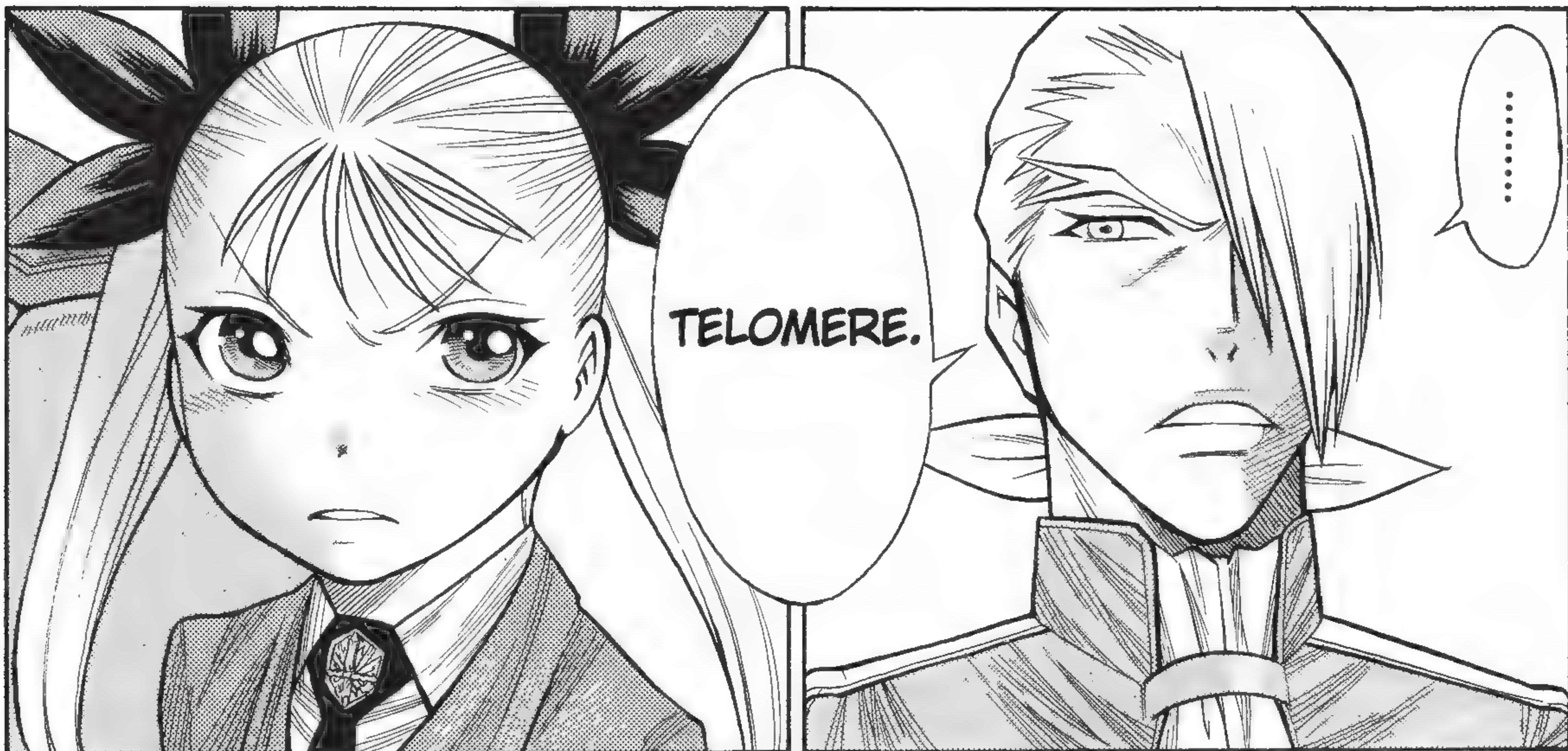
ENTIRELY POSSIBLE.

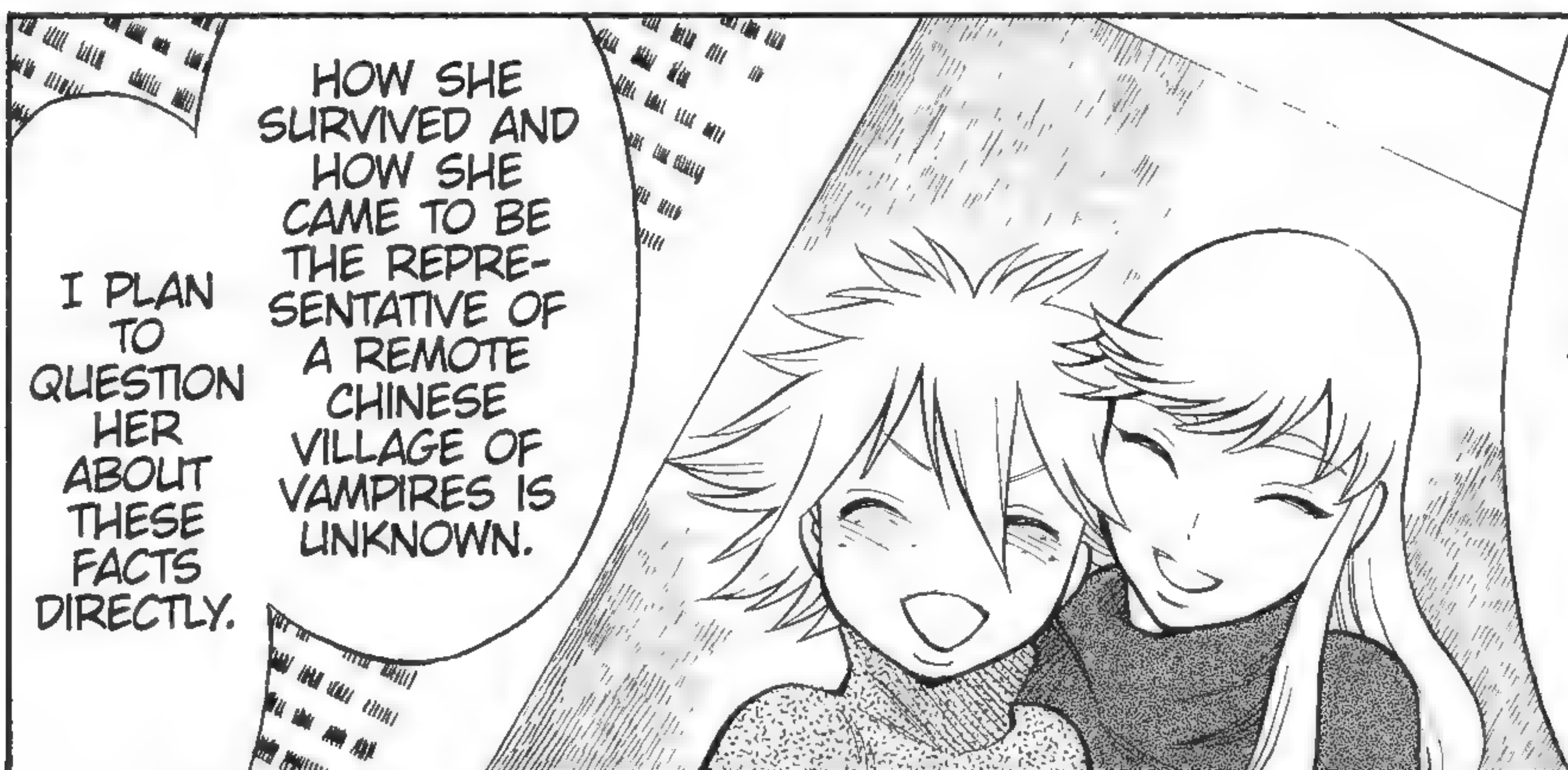


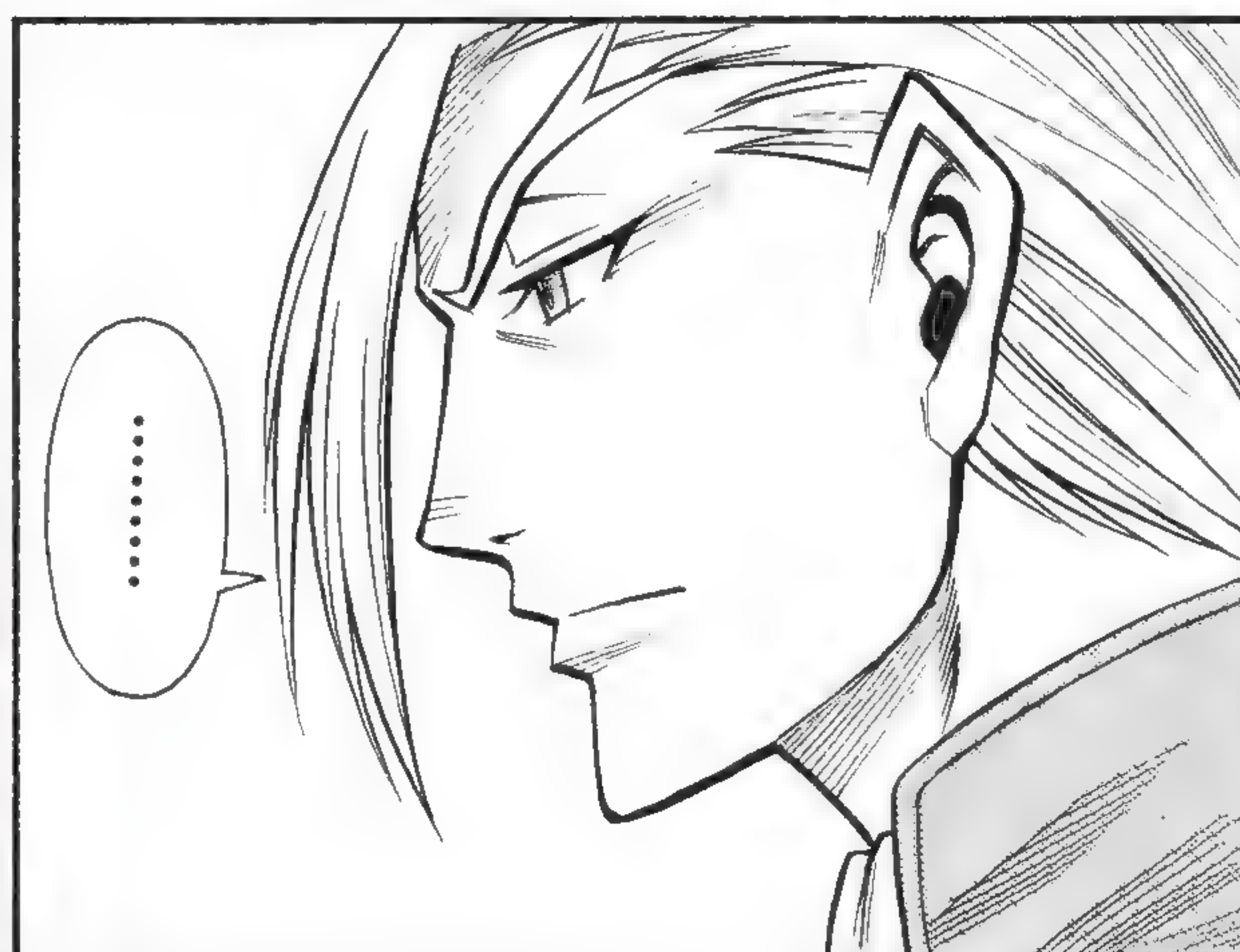
NOW SOMEONE IS DELIBERATELY UPSETTING THAT BALANCE.



THEY HAVE ALREADY BEEN UNLEASHED UPON LI. IT IS NOT UNTHINKABLE THAT THE IVANOVIC AND ROZENMANN CLANS HAVE ALSO BEEN INFECTED.










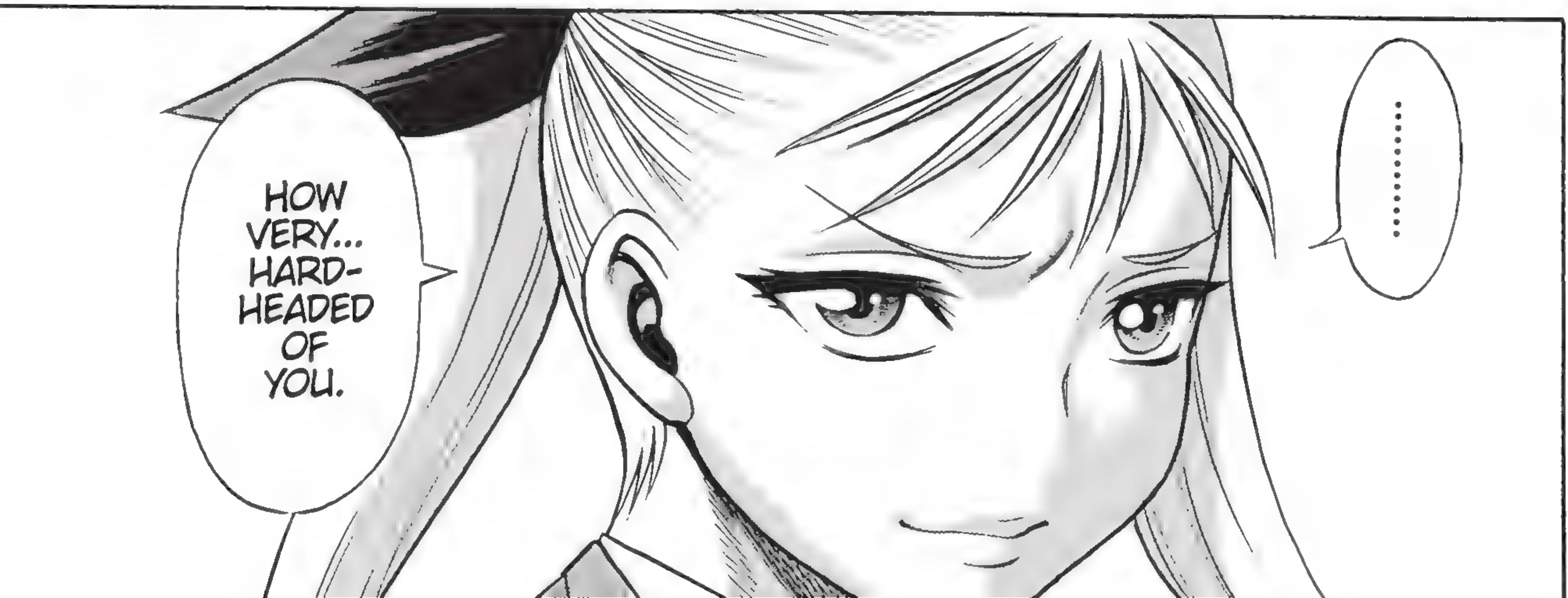
YES,
IT IS
NATURAL
FOR A
PARENT
TO LOVE
THEIR
CHILD.

HOWEVER,
THE
REVERSE
NEED NOT
NECES-
SARILY BE
TRUE.



IF, DURING
THE PROCESS,
THE CHILD
SHOULD COME
TO HATE
THE PARENT,
THAT IS NO
GREAT
PROBLEM.

WHAT
MATTERS
ARE THE
SKILLS AND
STRENGTH,
NOT THE
EMOTIONS.



HOW
VERY...
HARD-
HEADED
OF
YOU.

.....



THERE HAVE BEEN TIMES WHEN I HAVE CURSED MY MOTHER FOR BEARING ME. MANY TIMES.

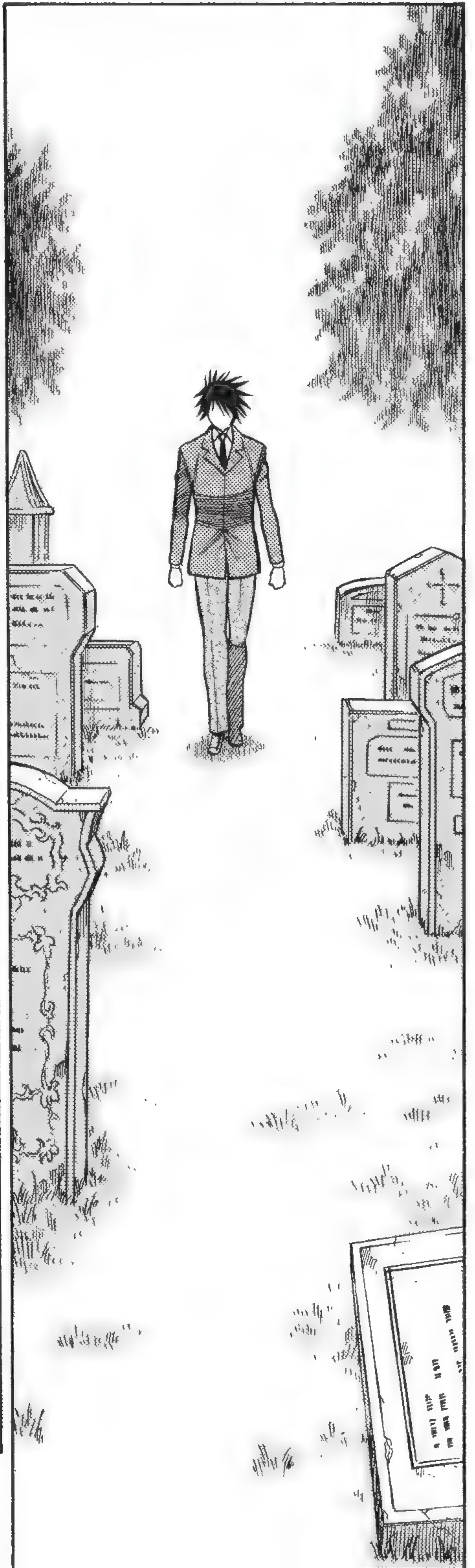
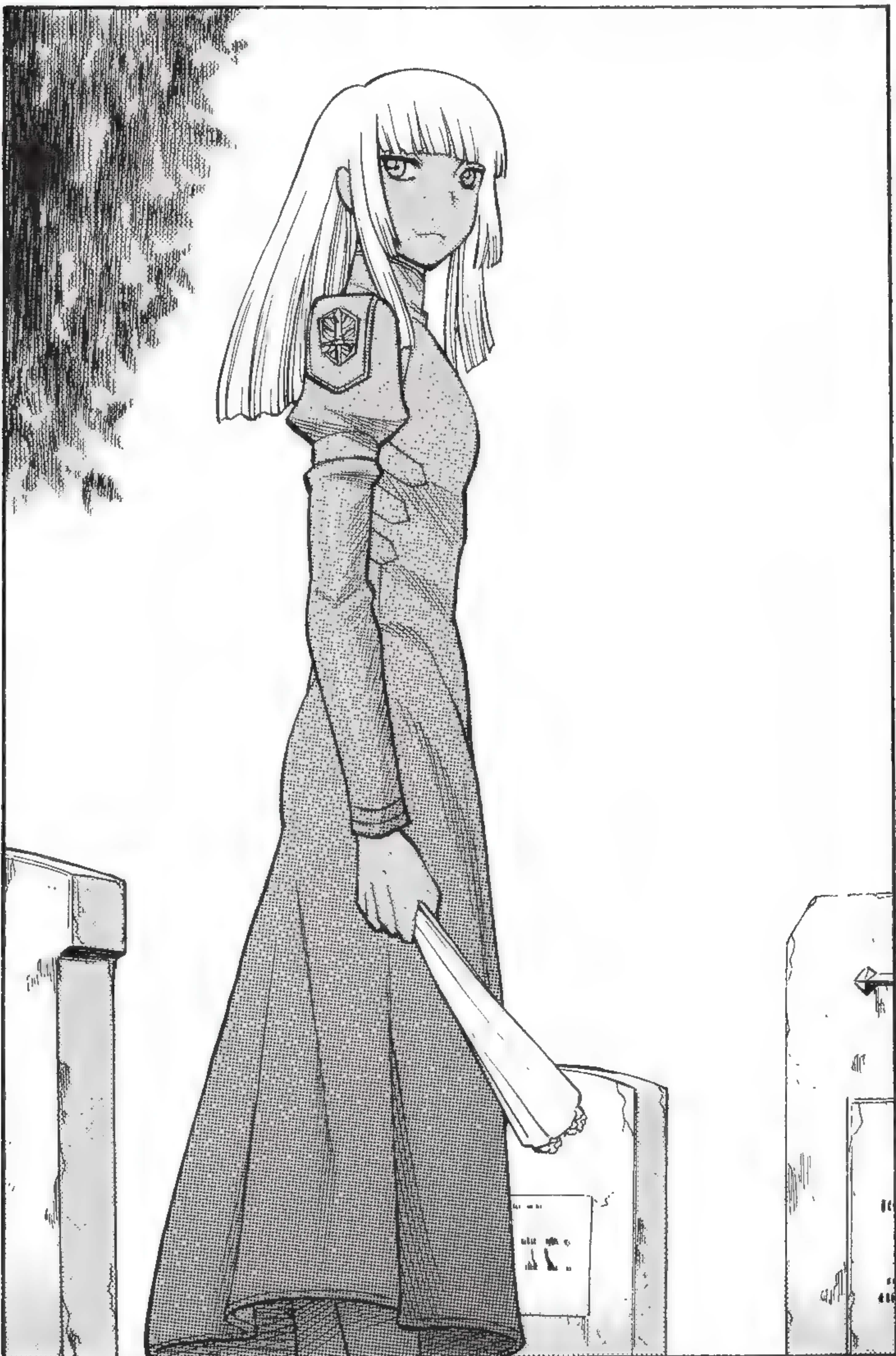


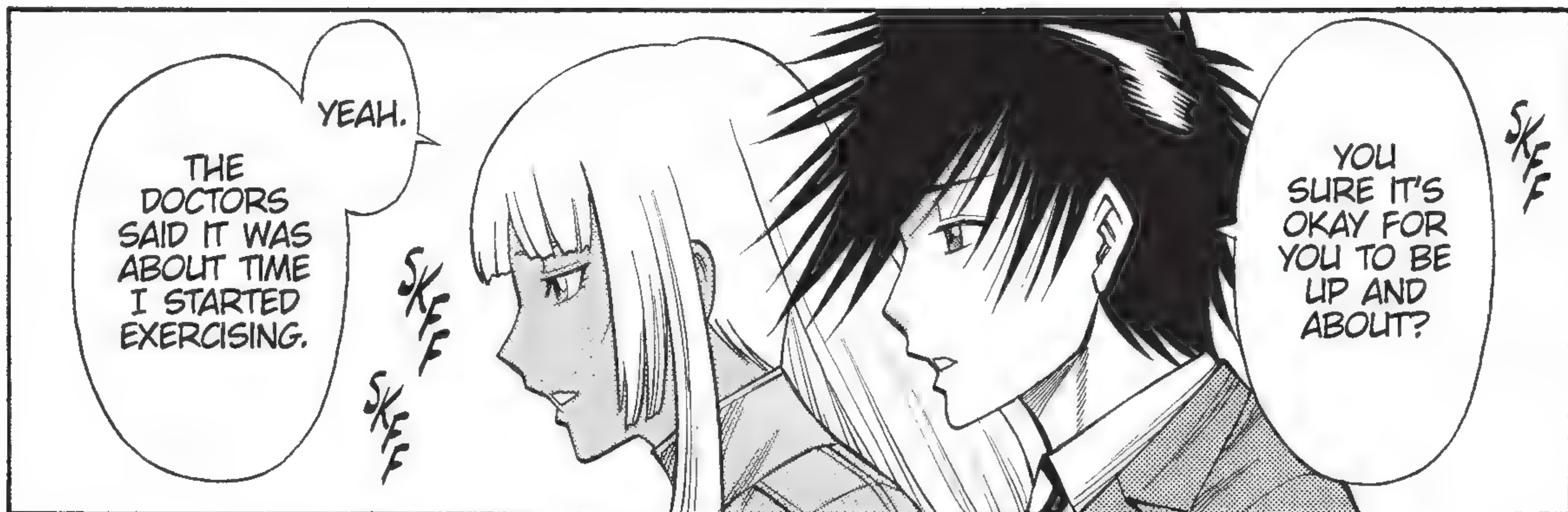
BUT I HAVE NEVER DOUBTED EVEN FOR A MOMENT THAT SHE LOVED ME.

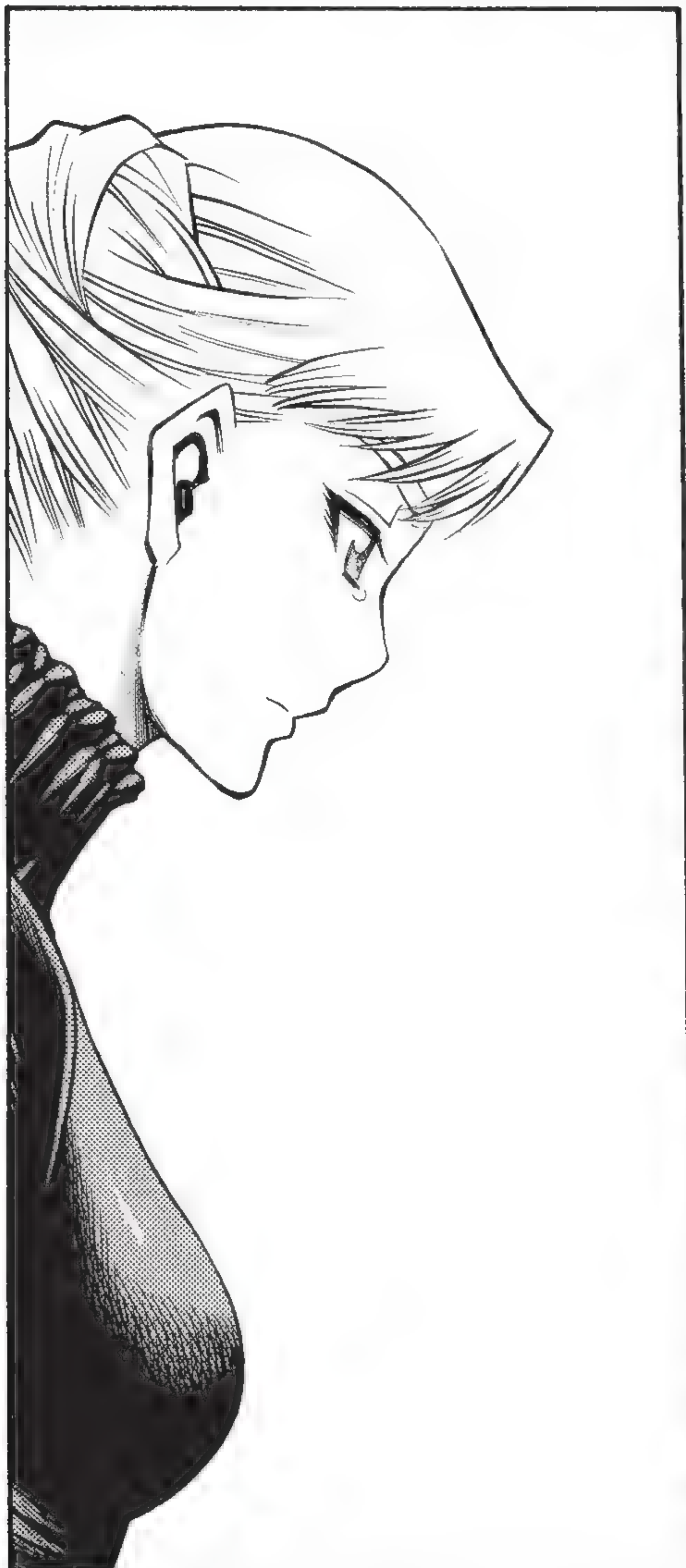
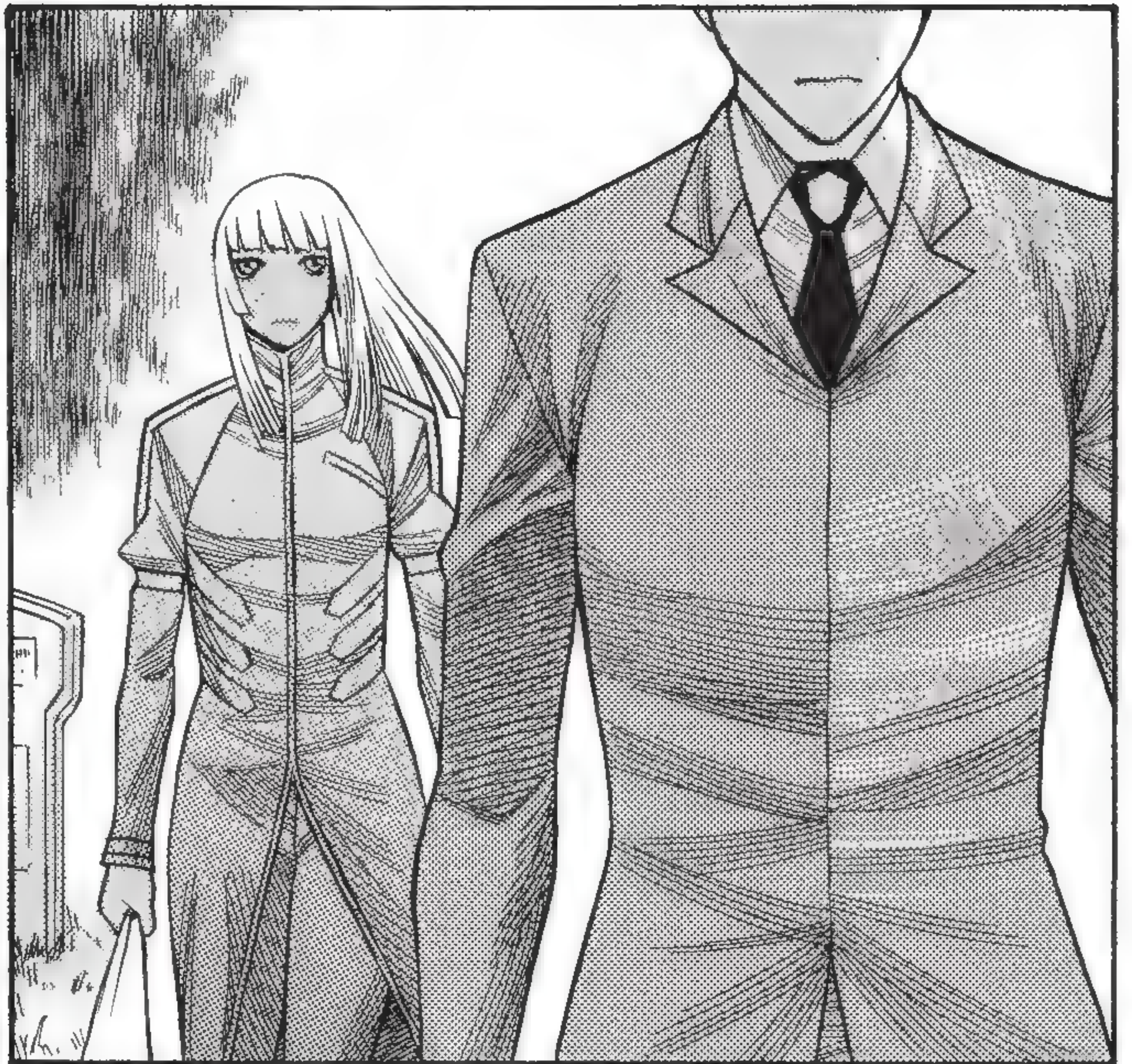
FOR A CHILD TO GROW UP WITHOUT EVER KNOWING THE LOVE OF A PARENT IS A SAD THING.

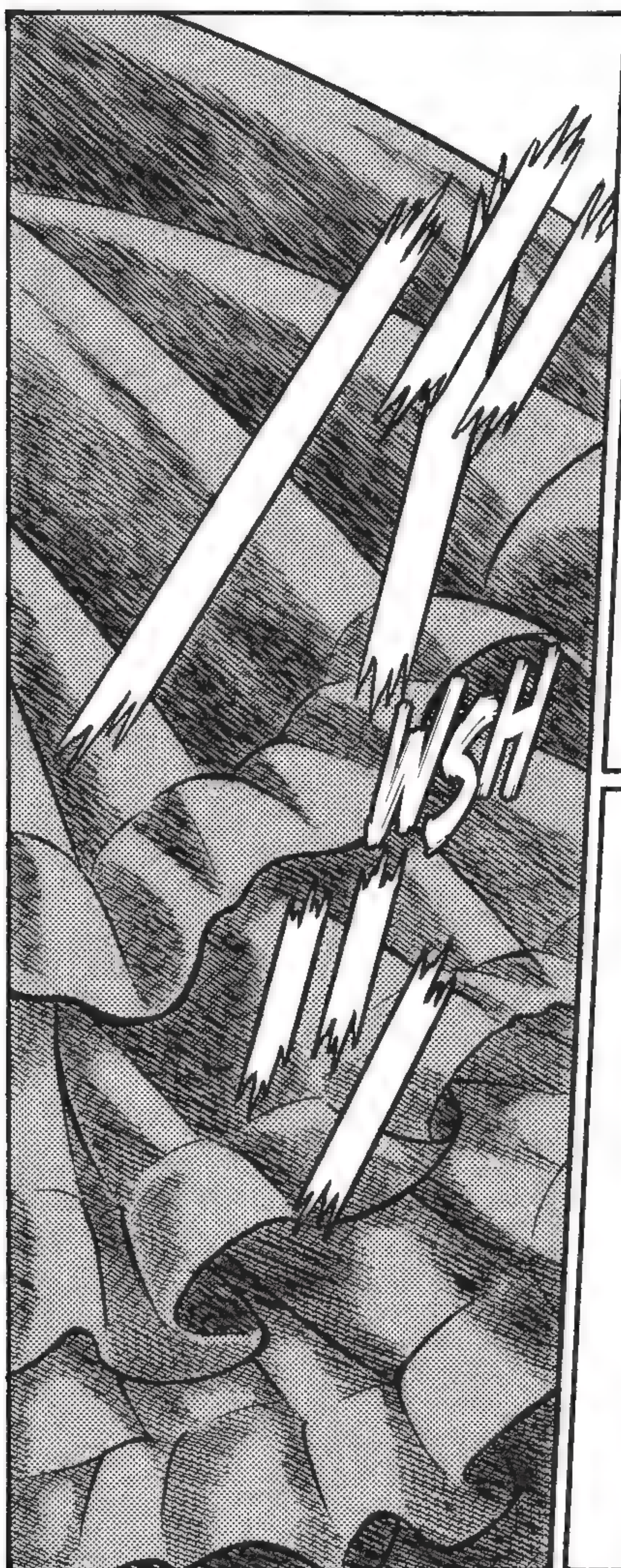
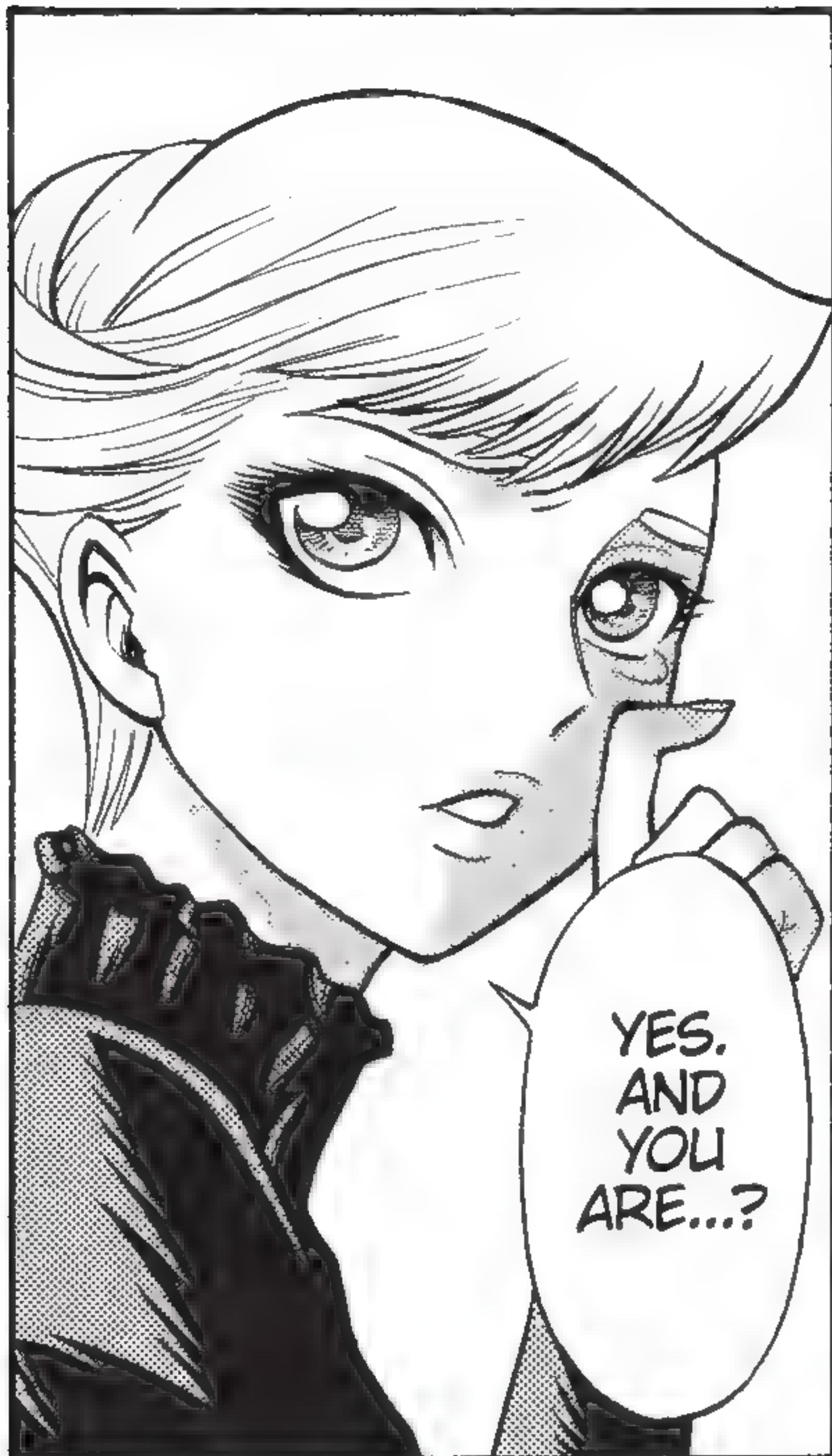
DON'T YOU AGREE?

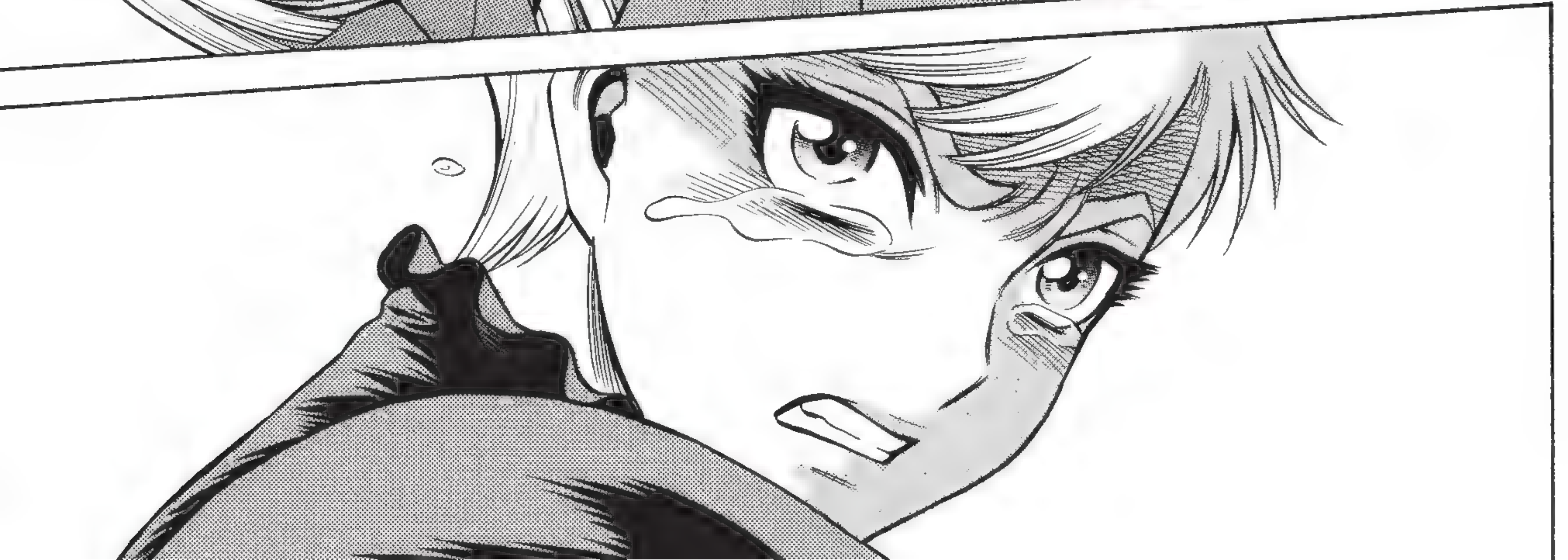
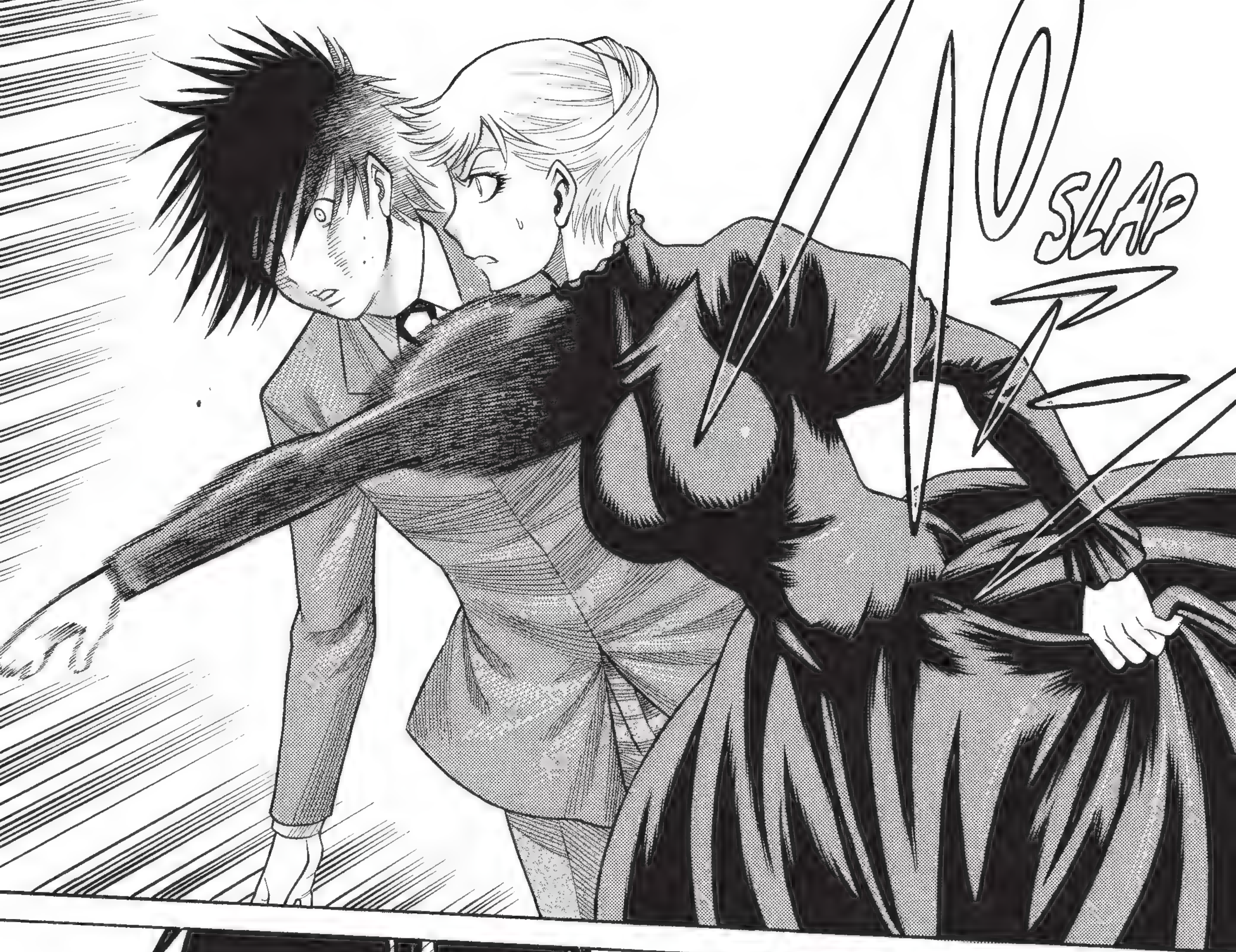
EVEN NOW, IT IS BECAUSE OF HER UNHESITATING, UNSTINTING LOVE THAT I AM ABLE TO BEAR THIS LIFE, DAY IN AND DAY OUT.













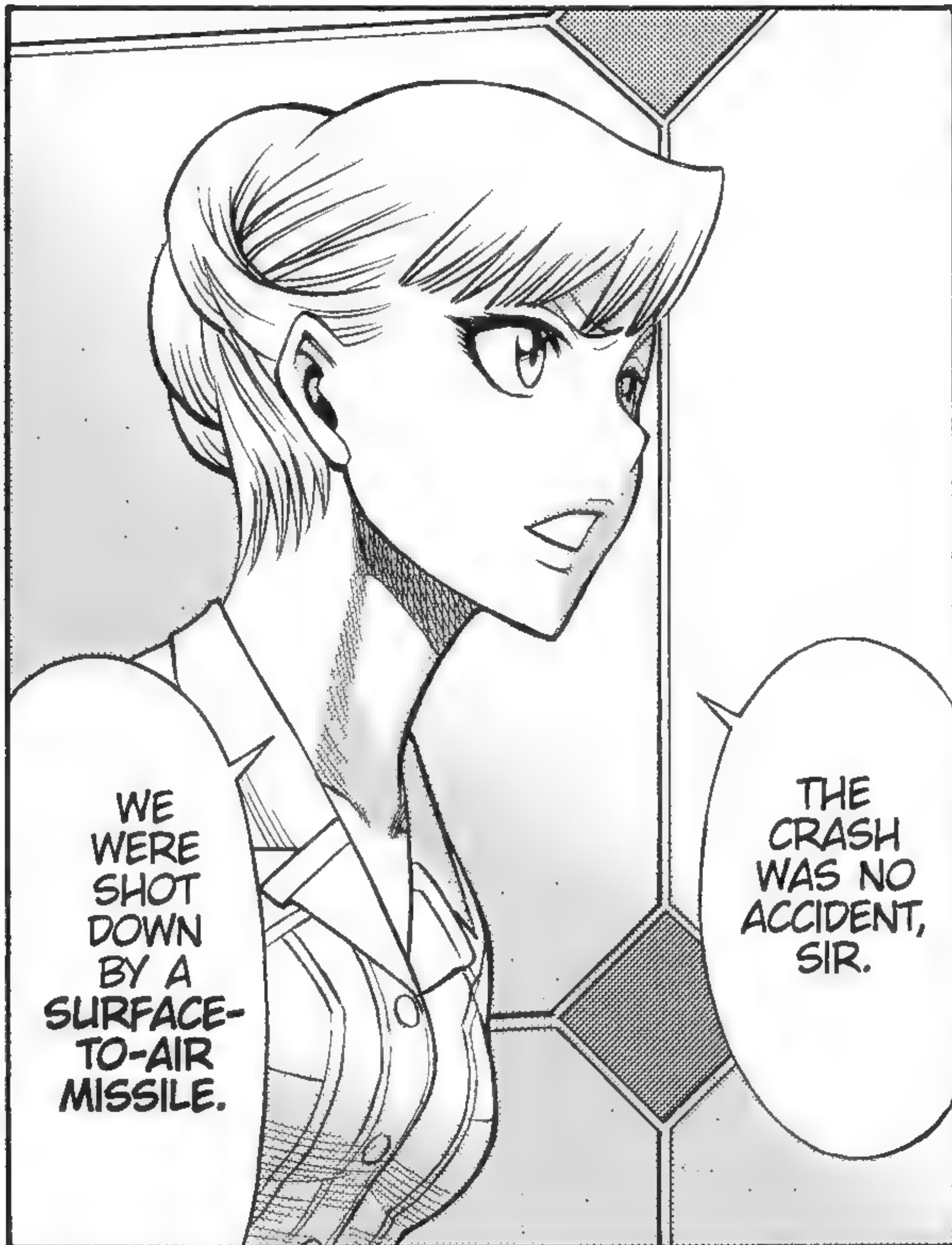
Chapter 46: The Family Plot



THAT DAY
WAS A
TRAGEDY...

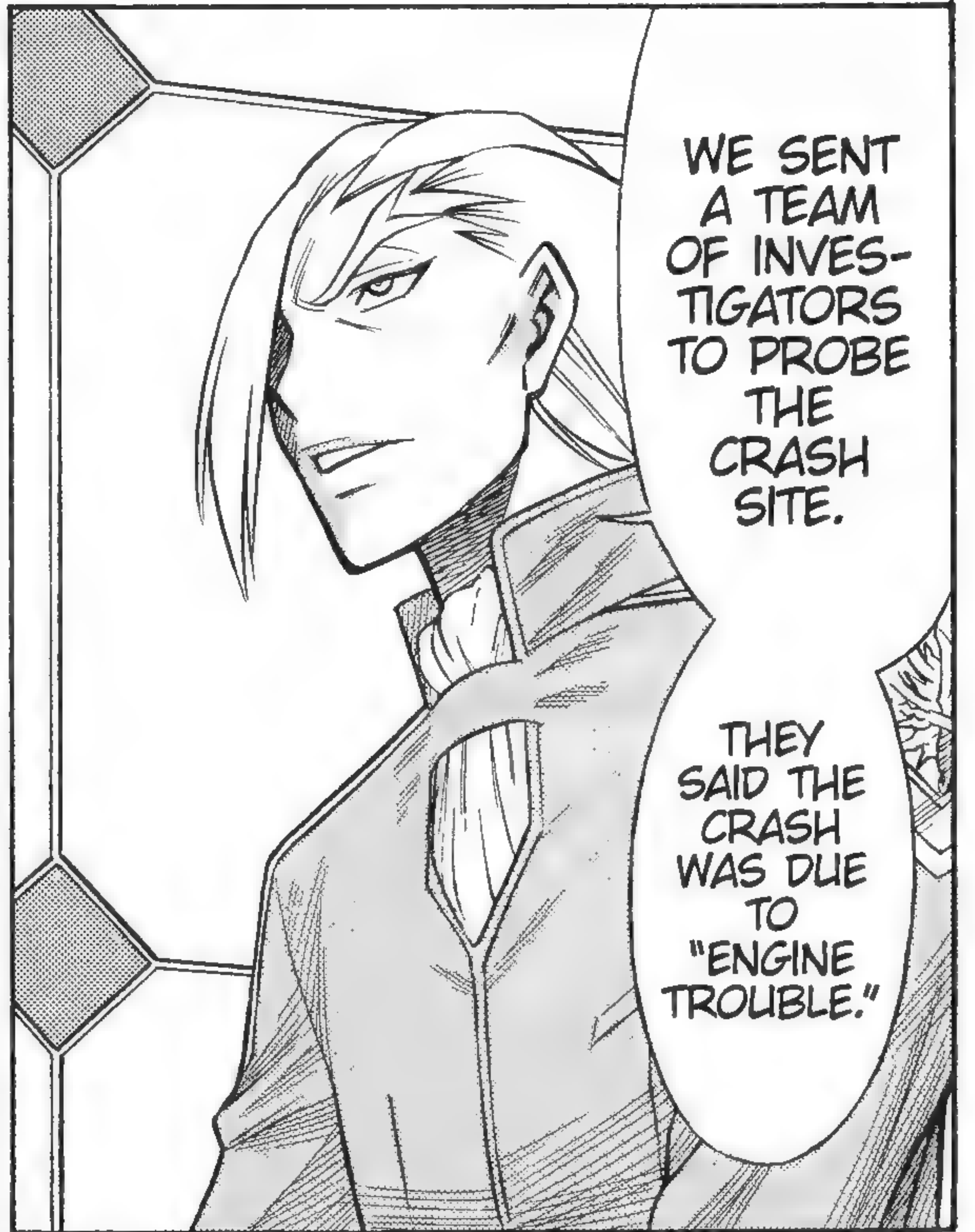
MY
SURVIVAL,
DESPITE
EVERYTHING
THAT
HAPPENED,
WAS NOTHING
SHORT OF A
MIRACLE.

ONLY I
MADE IT.
MOTHER
AND
FATHER...
WEREN'T
AS LUCKY
AS I.



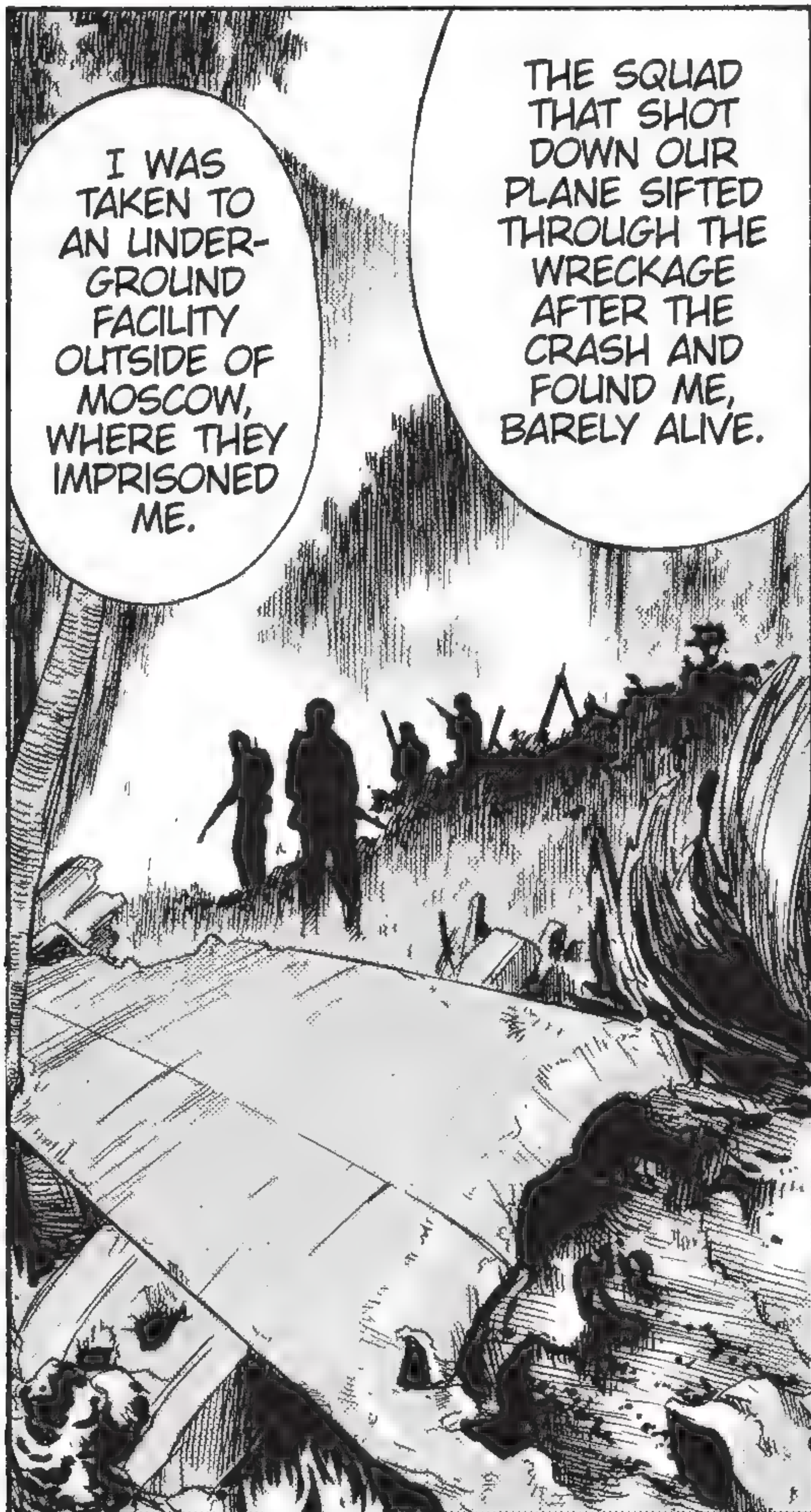
WE WERE SHOT DOWN BY A SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE.

THE CRASH WAS NO ACCIDENT, SIR.



WE SENT A TEAM OF INVESTIGATORS TO PROBE THE CRASH SITE.

THEY SAID THE CRASH WAS DUE TO "ENGINE TROUBLE."



I WAS TAKEN TO AN UNDERGROUND FACILITY OUTSIDE OF MOSCOW, WHERE THEY IMPRISONED ME.

THE SQUAD THAT SHOT DOWN OUR PLANE SIFTED THROUGH THE WRECKAGE AFTER THE CRASH AND FOUND ME, BARELY ALIVE.

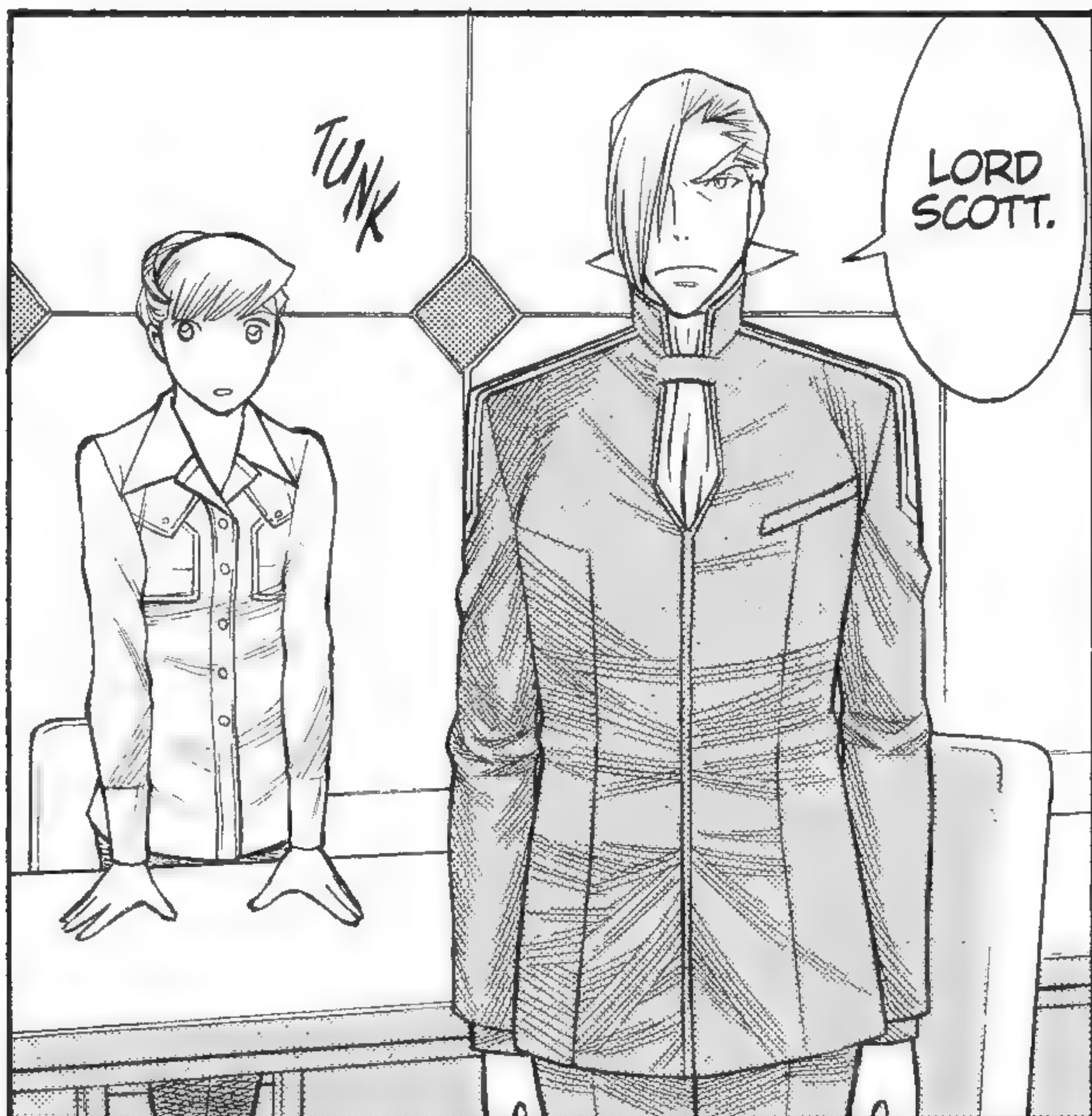


THE INVESTIGATORS' REPORT INDICATED THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF EXPLOSIVE DAMAGE TO THE AIRCRAFT.



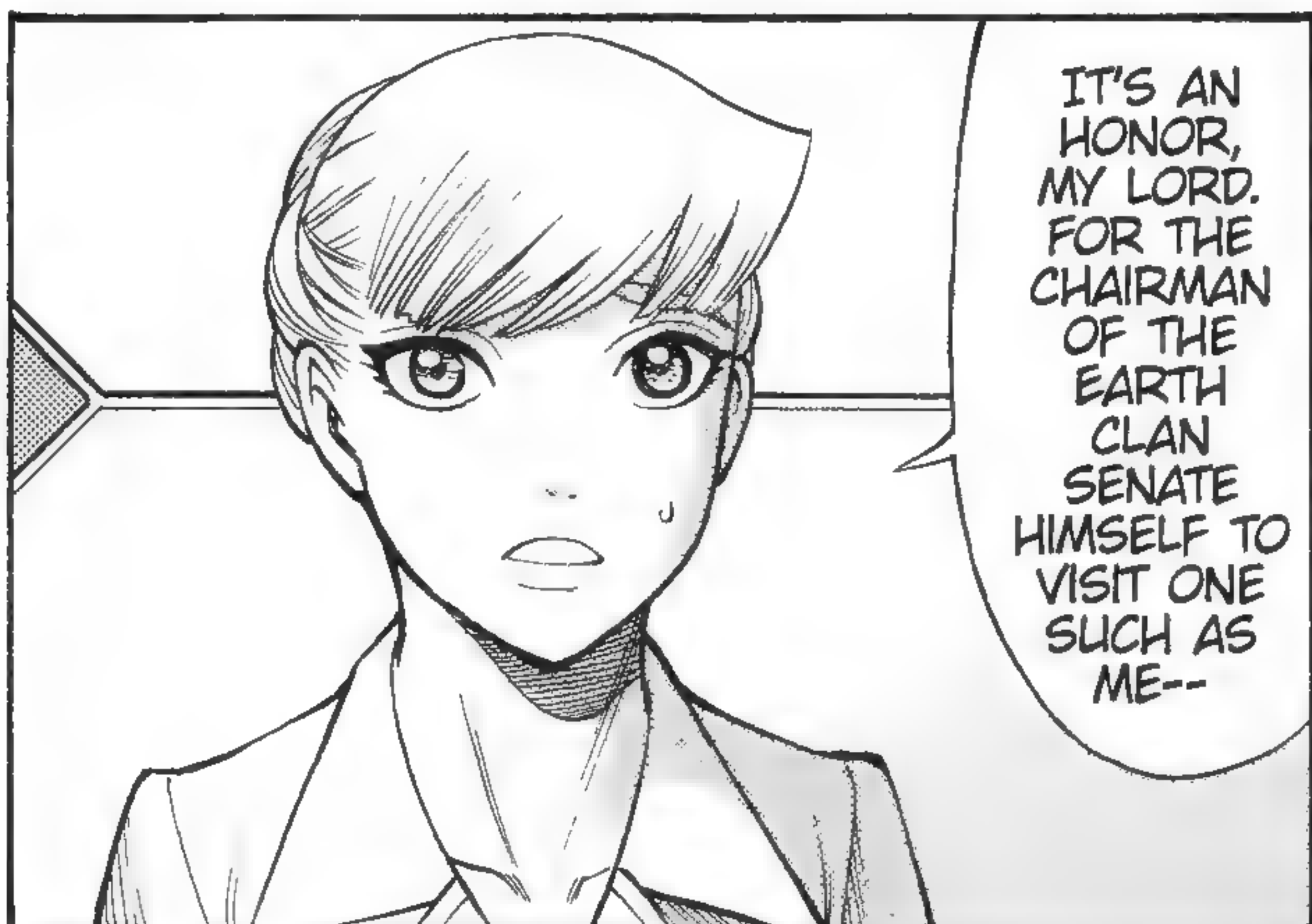
IT'S A METHOD OFTEN EMPLOYED BY SPECIAL OPERATIVES TO MAKE A DELIBERATE CRASH LOOK LIKE AN ACCIDENT.

IT'S MY BELIEF THAT THE MISSILE USED WAS ONE THAT HAD ITS WARHEAD REMOVED. THAT THEIR AIM WAS TO SIMPLY JAM UP THE ENGINE.



LORD SCOTT.

TUNK



IT'S AN HONOR, MY LORD. FOR THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EARTH CLAN SENATE HIMSELF TO VISIT ONE SUCH AS ME--



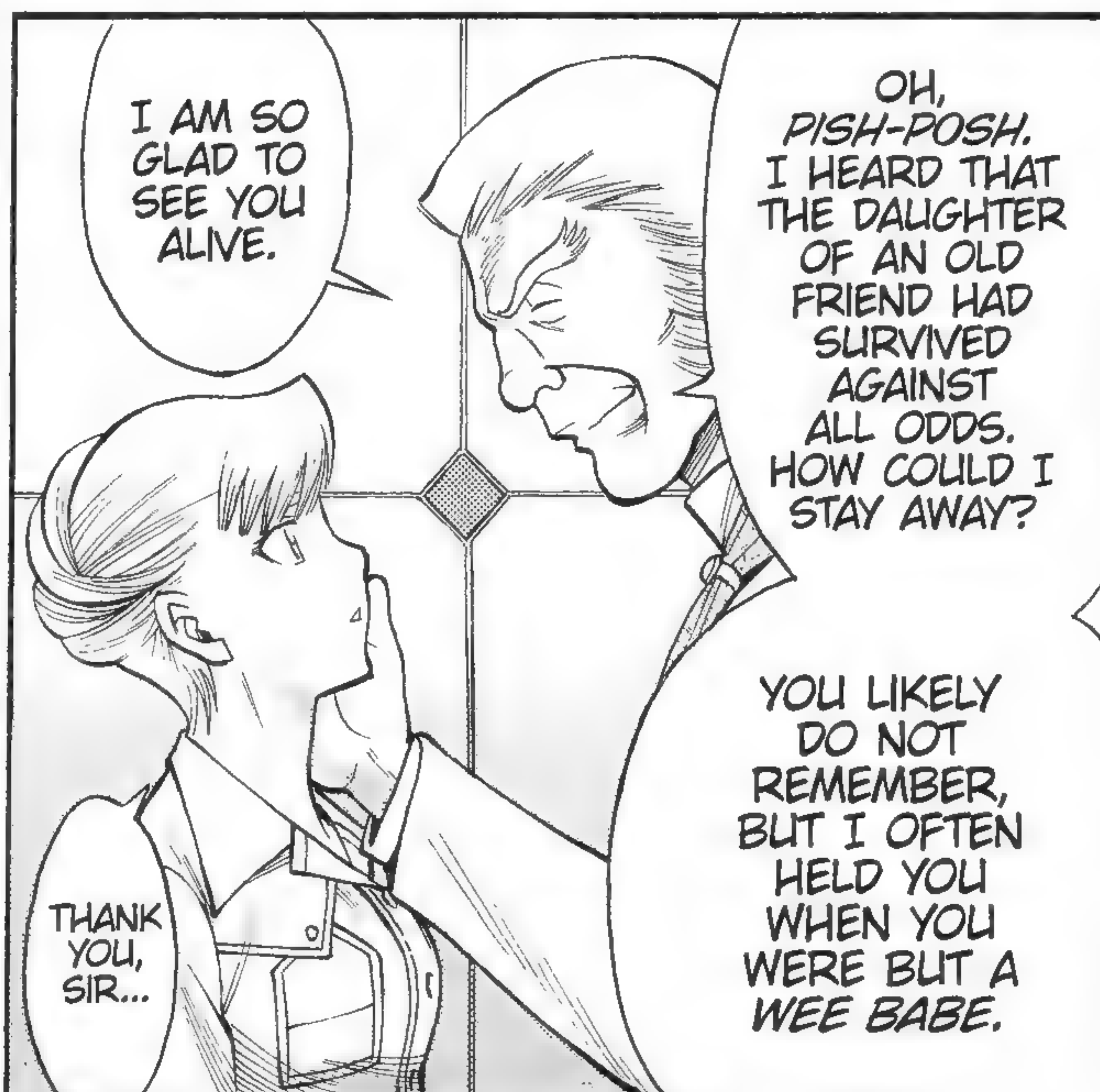
MOS-COW, HM...

THAT WOULD MAKE THIS IVANOVIC'S DOING, YES?



THINKING BACK ON IT, THERE WERE MANY SUSPICIOUS FACTORS SURROUNDING YOUR "ACCIDENT."

EVENTS BEGIN TO MAKE MUCH MORE SENSE WHEN VIEWING THEM AS A DELIBERATE ACT OF SABOTAGE BY IVANOVIC.

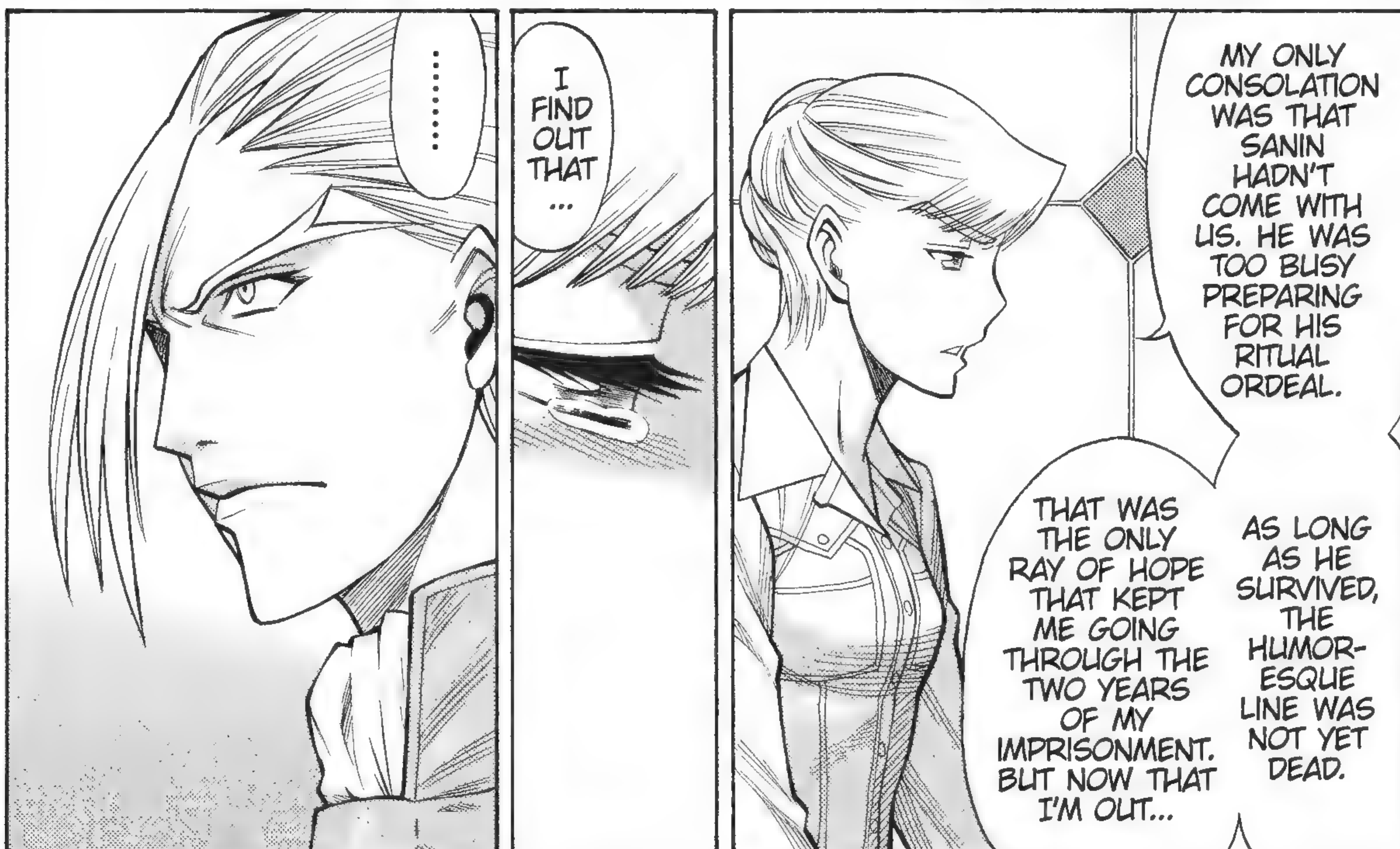
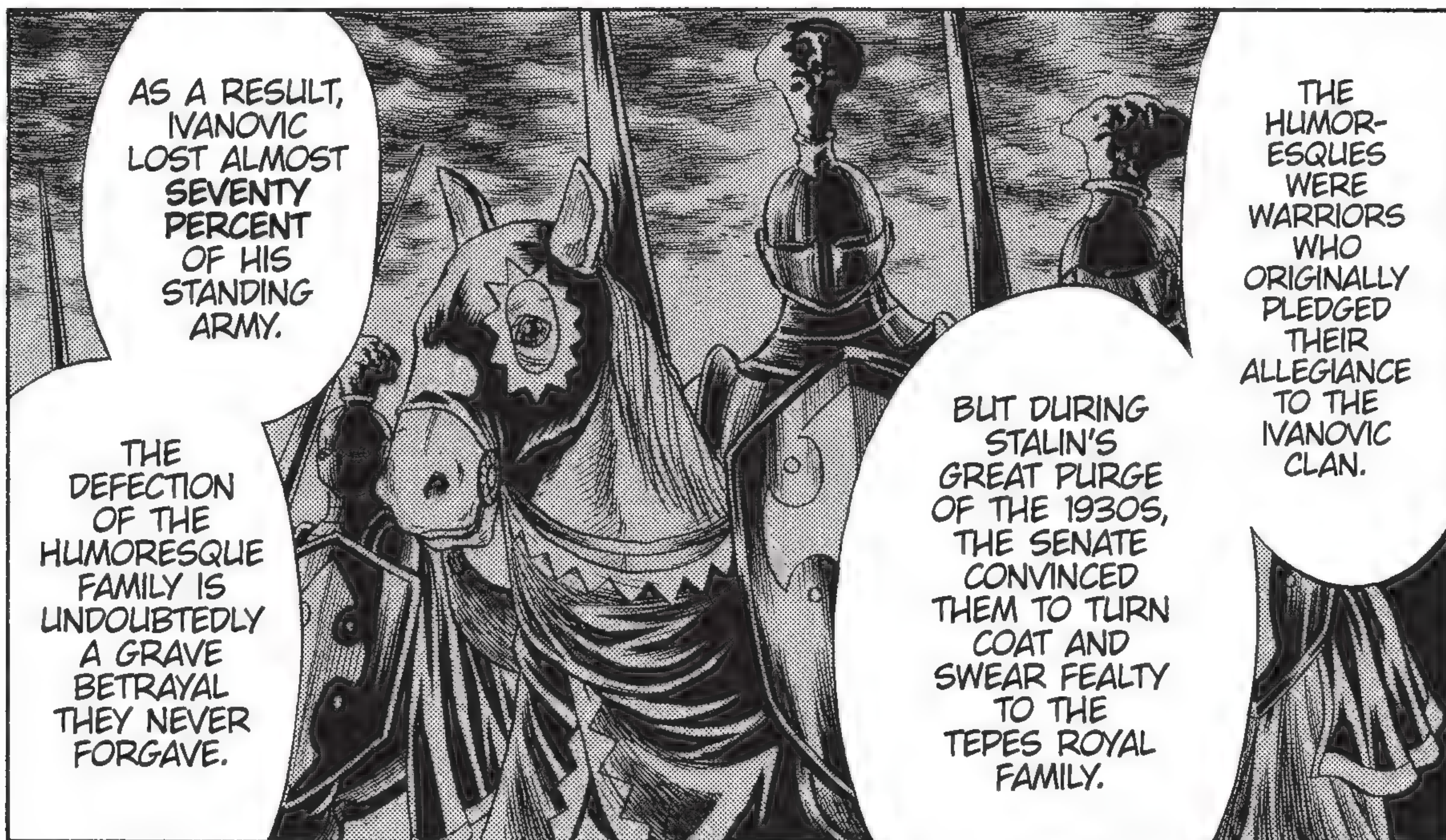


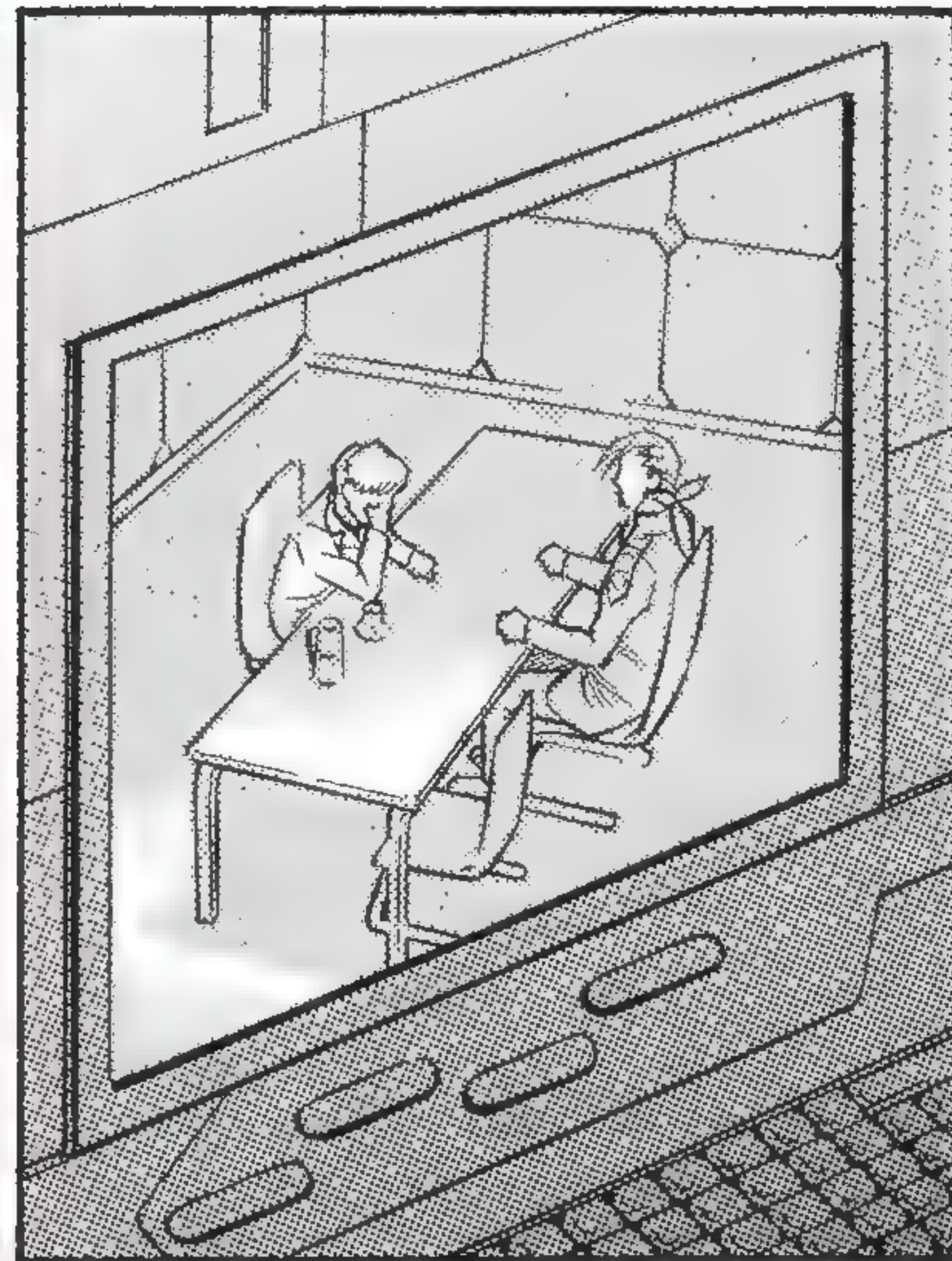
I AM SO GLAD TO SEE YOU ALIVE.

OH, PISH-POSH. I HEARD THAT THE DAUGHTER OF AN OLD FRIEND HAD SURVIVED AGAINST ALL ODDS. HOW COULD I STAY AWAY?

THANK YOU, SIR...

YOU LIKELY DO NOT REMEMBER, BUT I OFTEN HELD YOU WHEN YOU WERE BUT A WEE BABE.





THEY
FOUND
ME
THERE,
TOOK ME
IN AND
HID ME.



I JUST
KEPT
RUNNING
AND
RUNNING,
UNTIL I
FOUND
MYSELF
ON THE
BORDER
OF
CHINA.

I USED
EVERY
TRICK I
COULD
THINK OF
TO STAY
AHEAD
OF MY
PUR-
SUERS.



RETURNING
TO THE
TOPIC AT
HAND,
HOW DID
YOU
ESCAPE?



I
ESCAPED
IN THE
CONFLU-
SION.

SIX
MONTHS
AGO,
THERE
WAS A
HUGE
INCIDENT
AT THE
PRISON...





EVERY-
ONE
ELSE,
EVEN MY
BROTHER,
IS GONE
NOW.

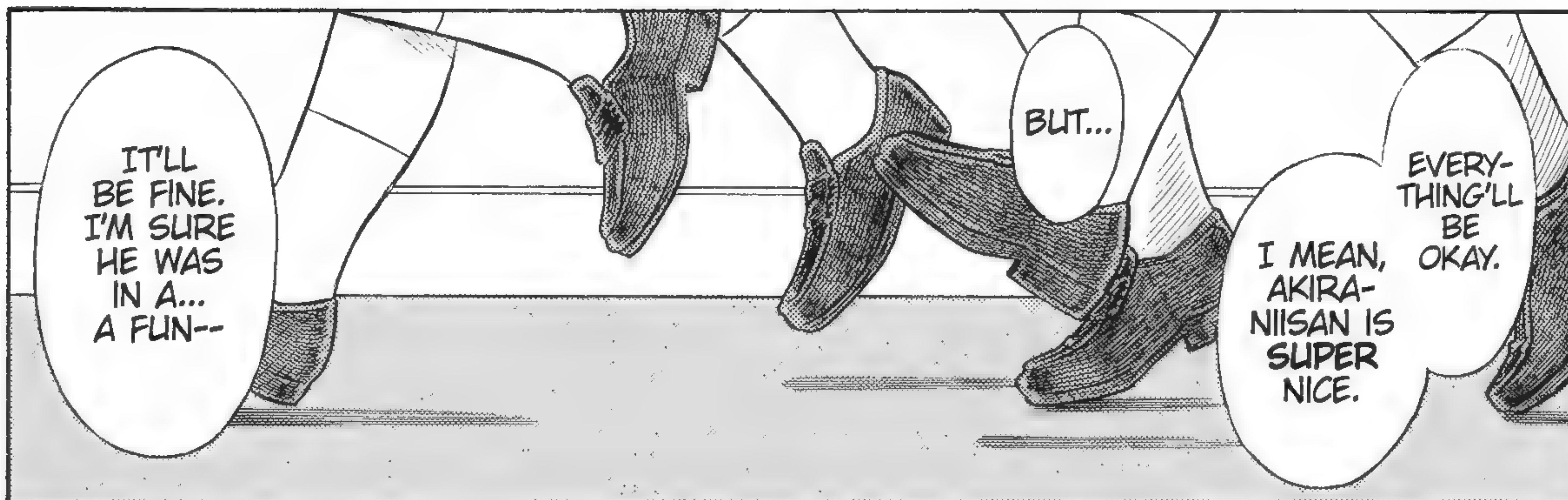
THEY'RE
ALL I
HAVE
LEFT.

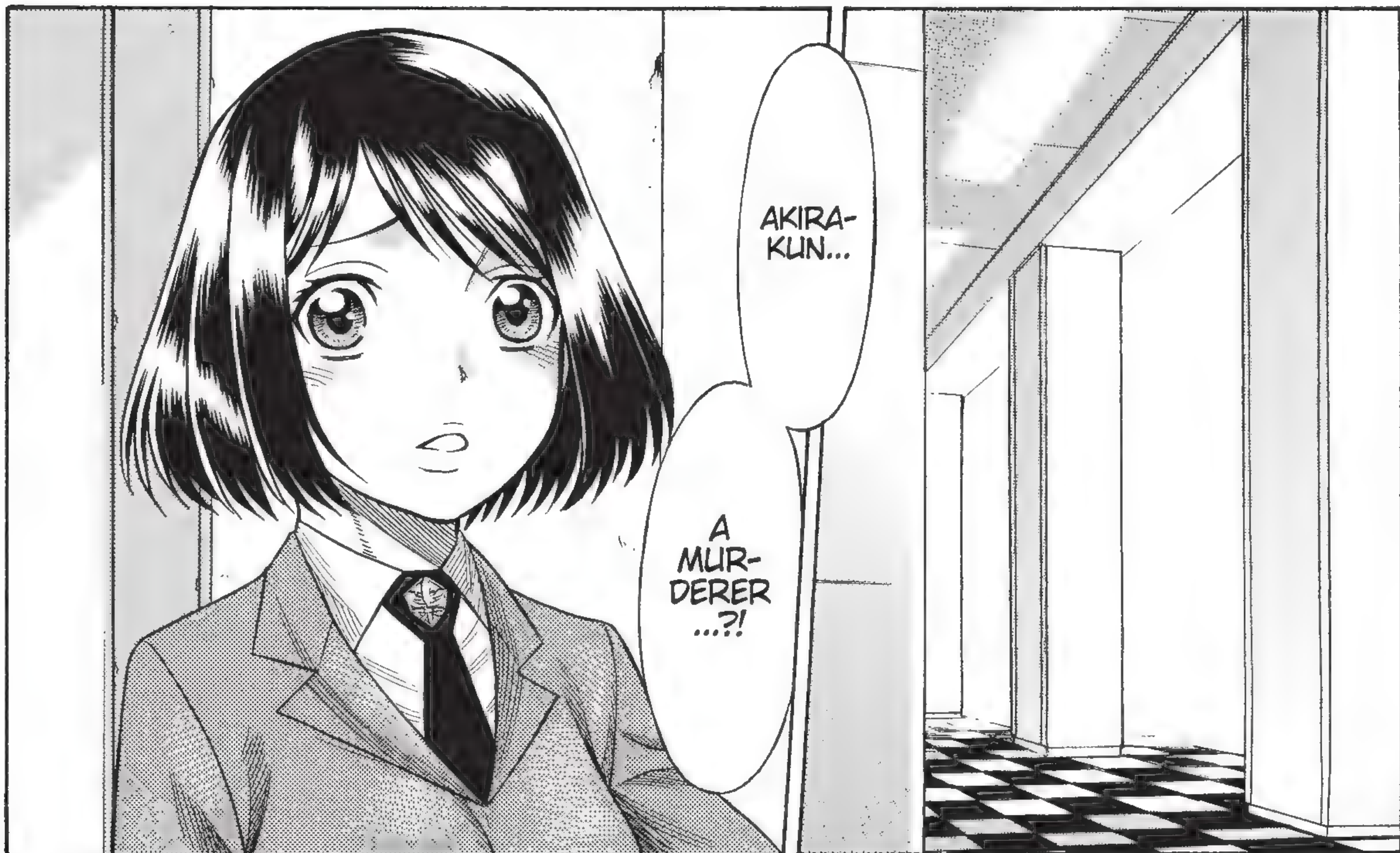
THEY'RE
MY
FAMILY
NOW.

EVERYTHING
THAT I HAD
BEEN FORCED TO
ENDURE DURING
THAT TIME HAD
LEFT ME ALL
BUT BROKEN.
BUT LIVING
TOGETHER WITH
THEM HEALED
BOTH MY BODY
AND MY SOUL.

NOW
IT'S MY
TURN
TO SAVE
THEM.

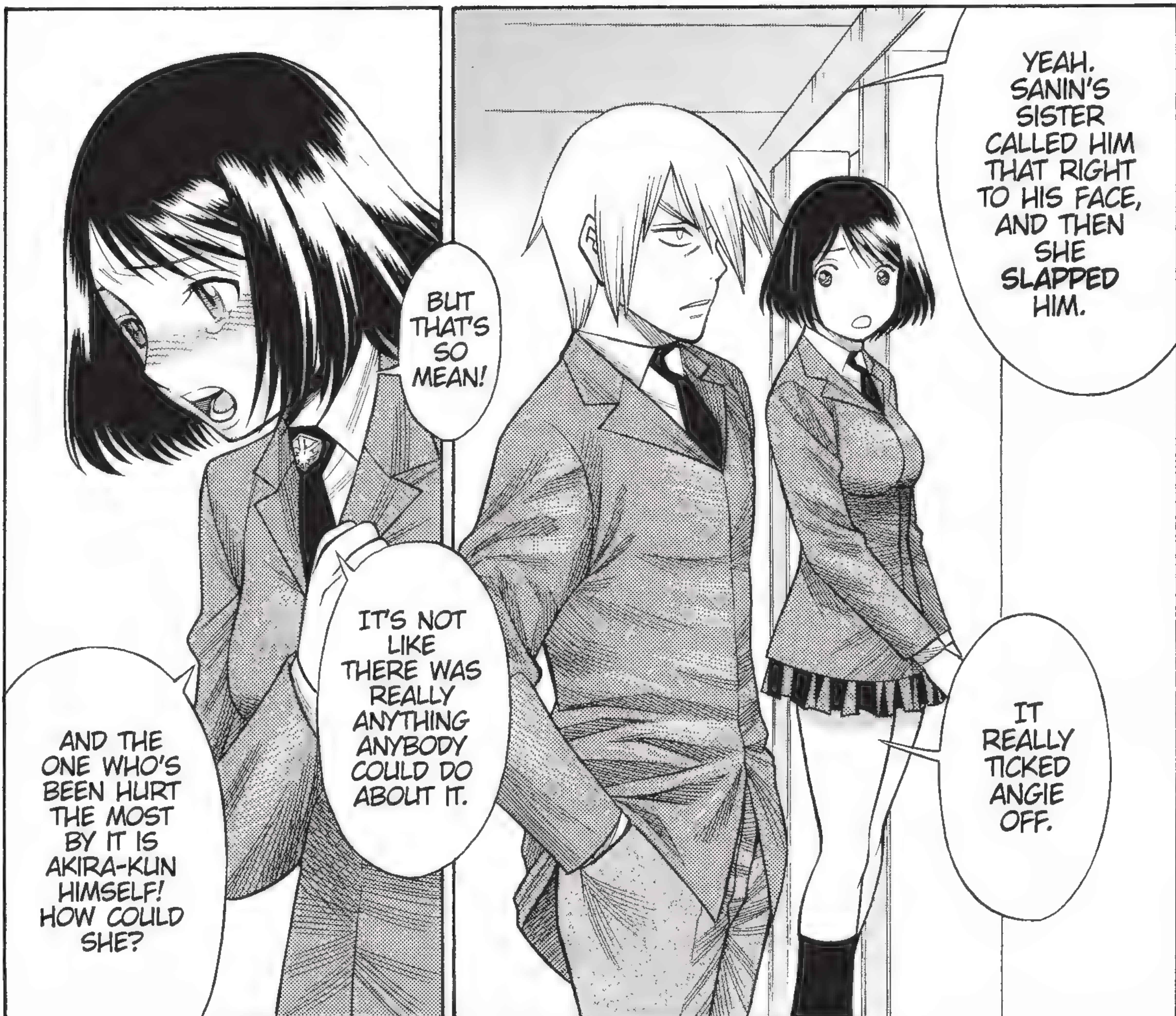
THAT IS
WHY I
DECIDED TO
BRING
THEM
HERE.





AKIRA-KUN...

A MURDERER...?!



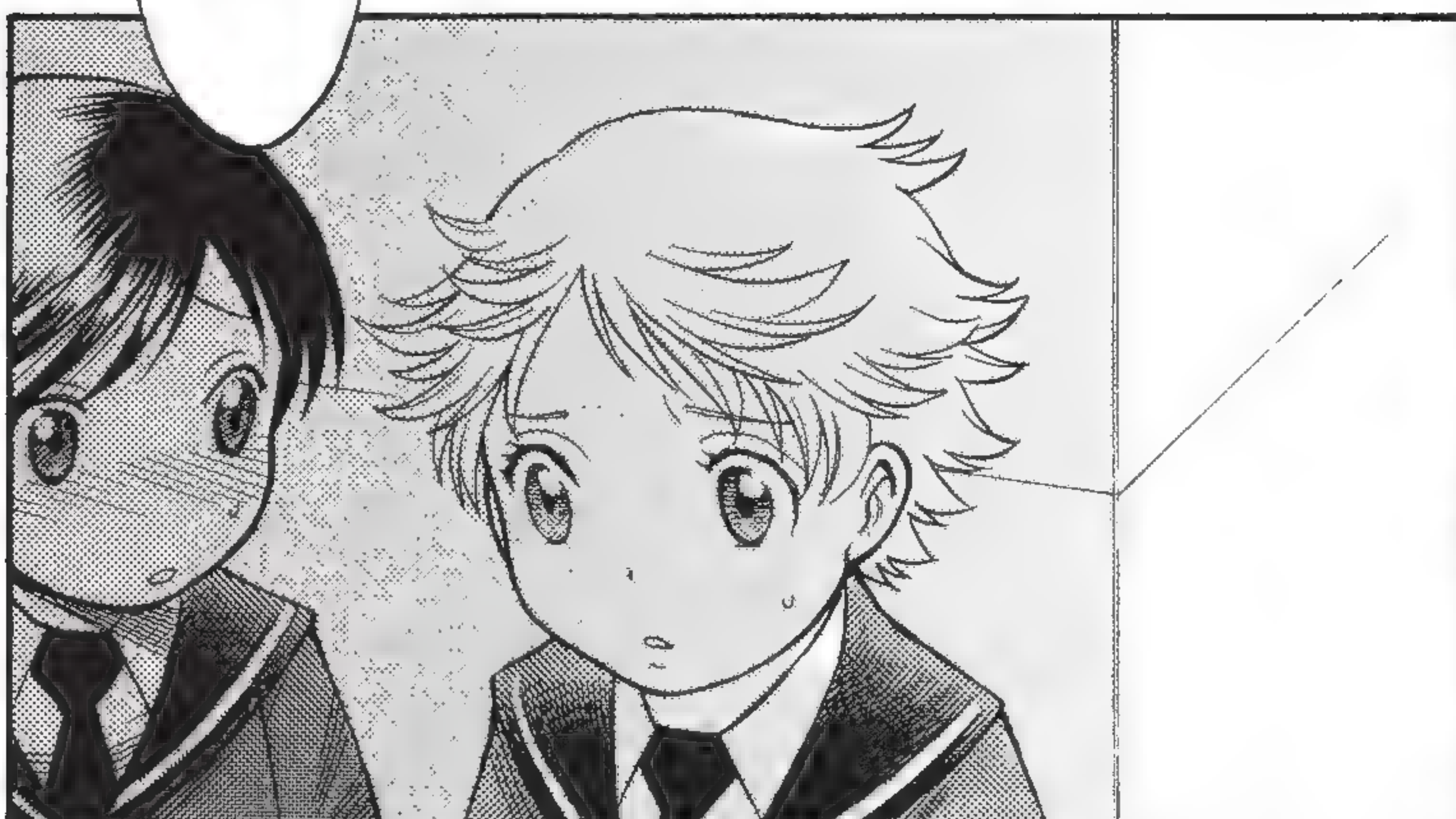
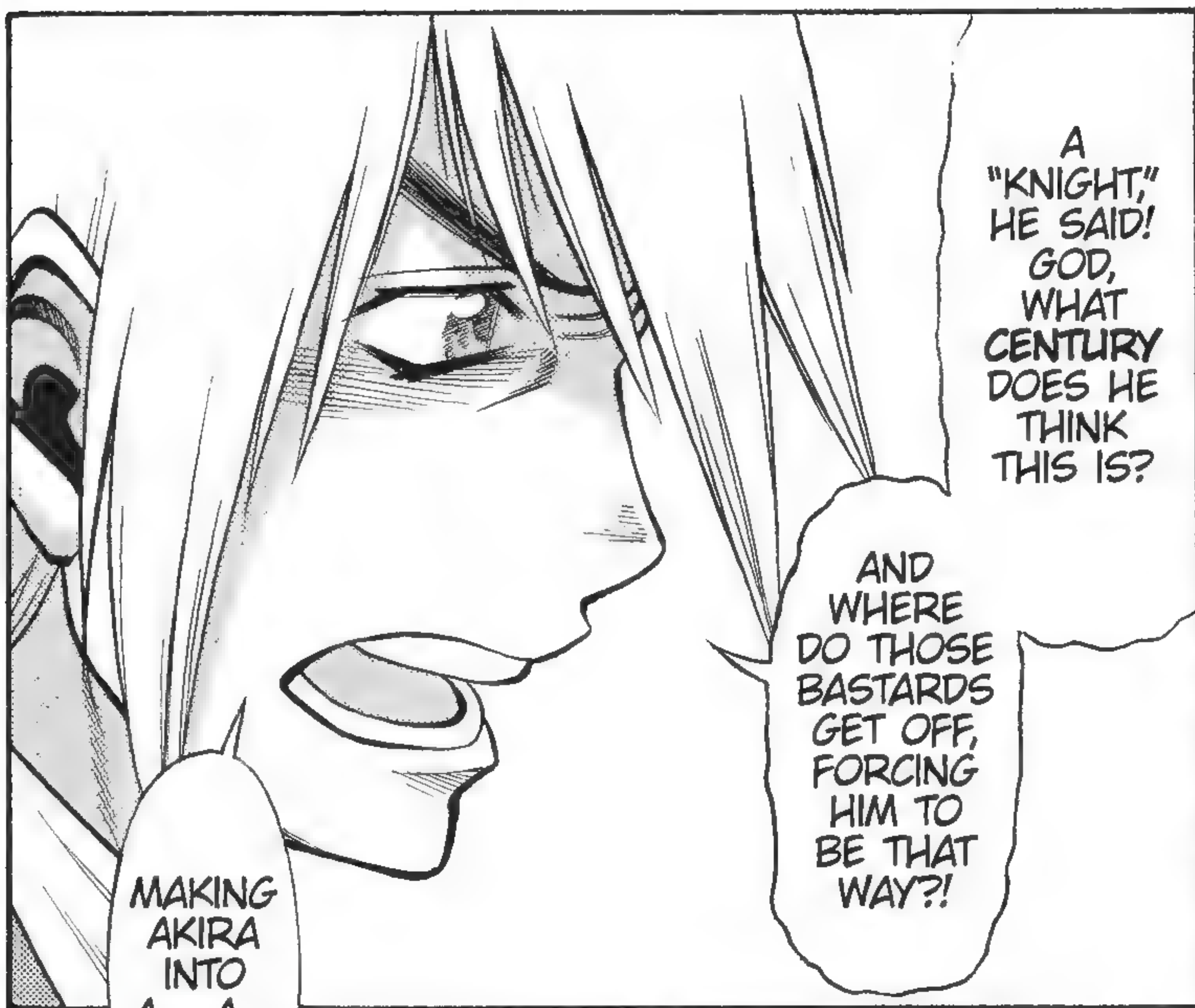
BUT THAT'S SO MEAN!

IT'S NOT LIKE THERE WAS REALLY ANYBODY COULD DO ABOUT IT.

AND THE ONE WHO'S BEEN HURT THE MOST BY IT IS AKIRA-KUN HIMSELF! HOW COULD SHE?

YEAH. SANIN'S SISTER CALLED HIM THAT RIGHT TO HIS FACE, AND THEN SHE SLAPPED HIM.

IT REALLY TICKED ANGIE OFF.



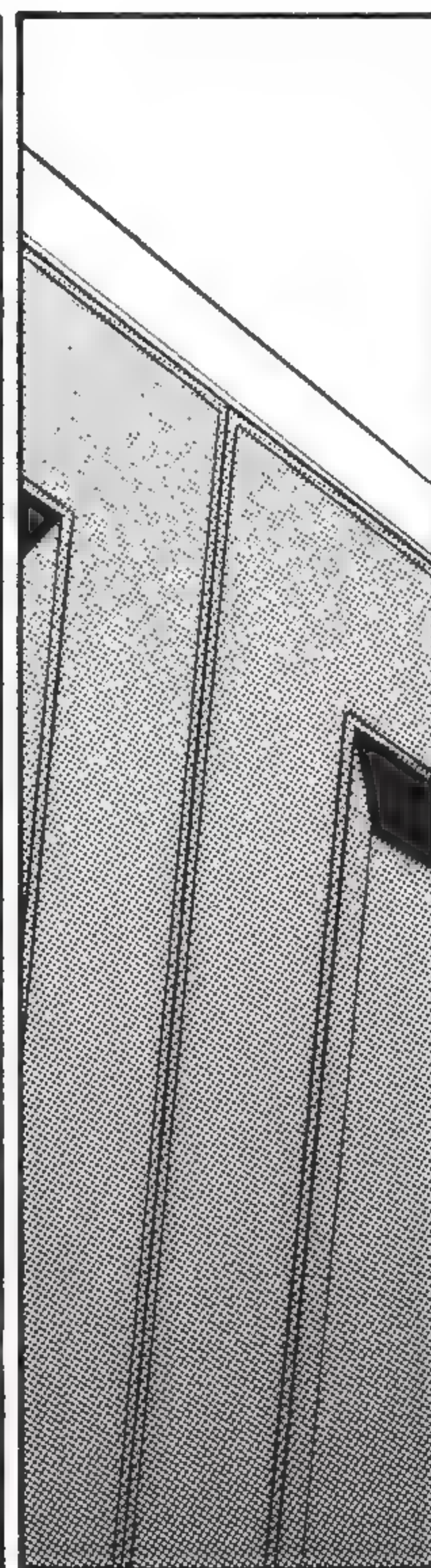


I'VE
AC-
CEPTED
IT.

I'M
NOT
"OVER
IT."



SO YOU
SAY YOU
ARE COM-
PLETELY
OVER
SANIN'S
DEATH.



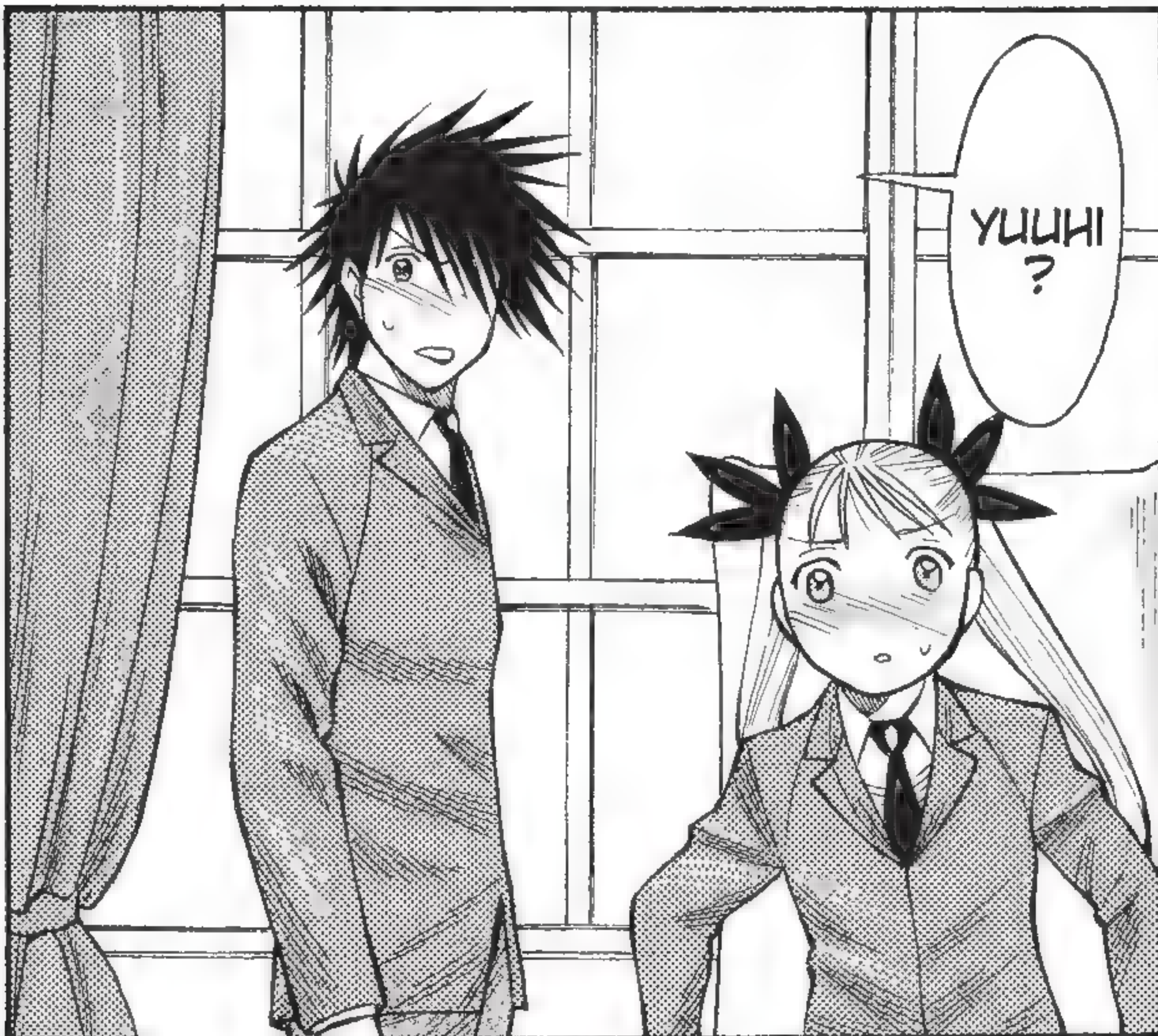
BUT I
DO NOT
RECALL
YOU
ASKING ME
IF THIS
IS THE
KIND OF
"KNIGHT"
I WISHED
YOU
TO BE.

I
RECALL
YOU
SWEAR-
ING TO
BECOME
MY
KNIGHT...



SO I TAKE
IT THAT
MEANS
YOU HAVE
SIMPLY
GIVEN UP,
CORRECT?

HOW
VERY
ZEN
OF
YOU.





THEY
WERE ALL
LYING.
YOU
DIDN'T
DO IT.
RIGHT?
ONII-
CHAMA...



YOU...
YOU
DIDN'T
KILL
YOUR
FRIEND,
RIGHT
...?



YOU
DIDN'T,
RIGHT?



STUFF
LIKE THAT
ISN'T
SOME-
THING
LITTLE
KIDS LIKE
YOU
SHOULD
GO
AROUND
TALKING
ABOUT!!



WHERE
DID YOU
HEAR
THAT?!



O...

ONIII-
CHAMA
...

FM



YUHIHI!

YUHIHI-
CHAN?

DASH



SURE!

JII,
CAN YOU
LOOK
AFTER
HIM?



GOD!
IT'S
BECAUSE
YOU KEEP
RUNNING
AROUND
HERE THAT
YOU HEAR
THAT
CRAP!!

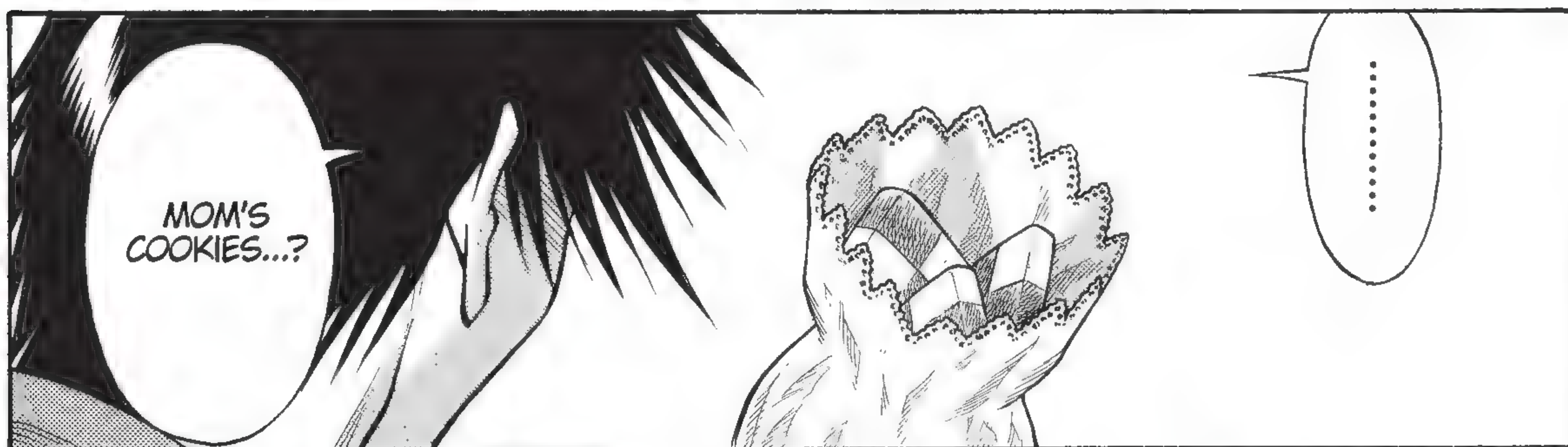
I'VE
TOLD
YOU
ONCE,
AND I'LL
TELL YOU
AGAIN--
GO
HOME!
NOW!!



HERE.

!

WERE
THOSE
THE
WORDS
OF A
RIGHT-
EOLIS
AND
HONOR-
ABLE
KNIGHT,
AKIRA?



MOM'S
COOKIES...?

...



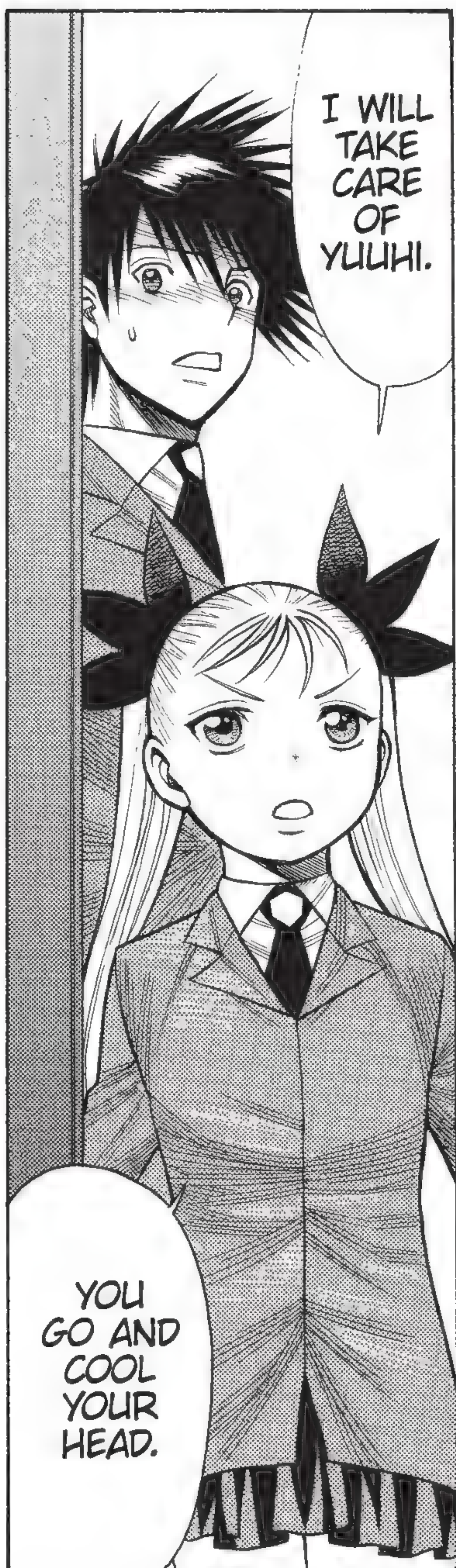
SO
I...

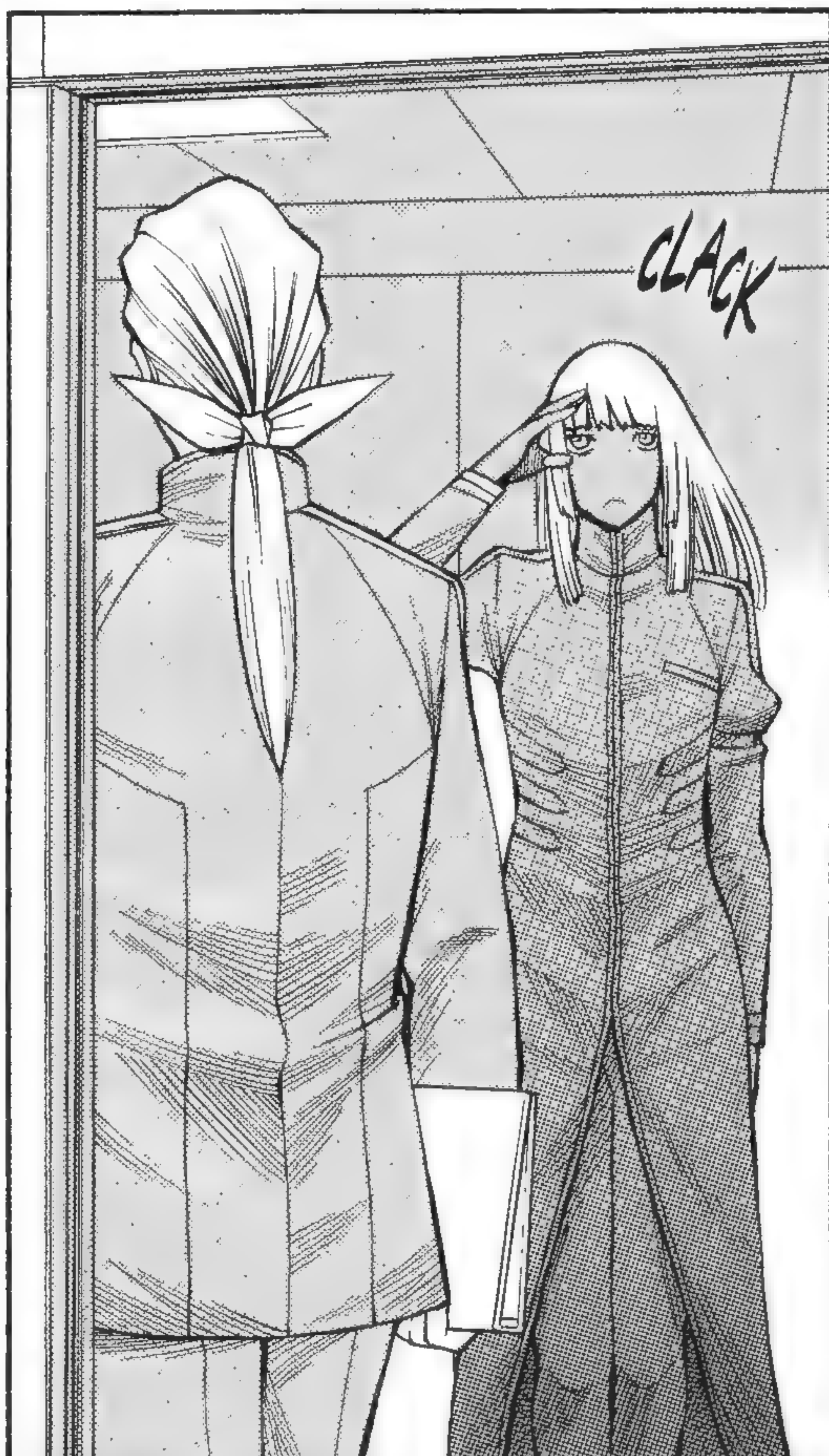
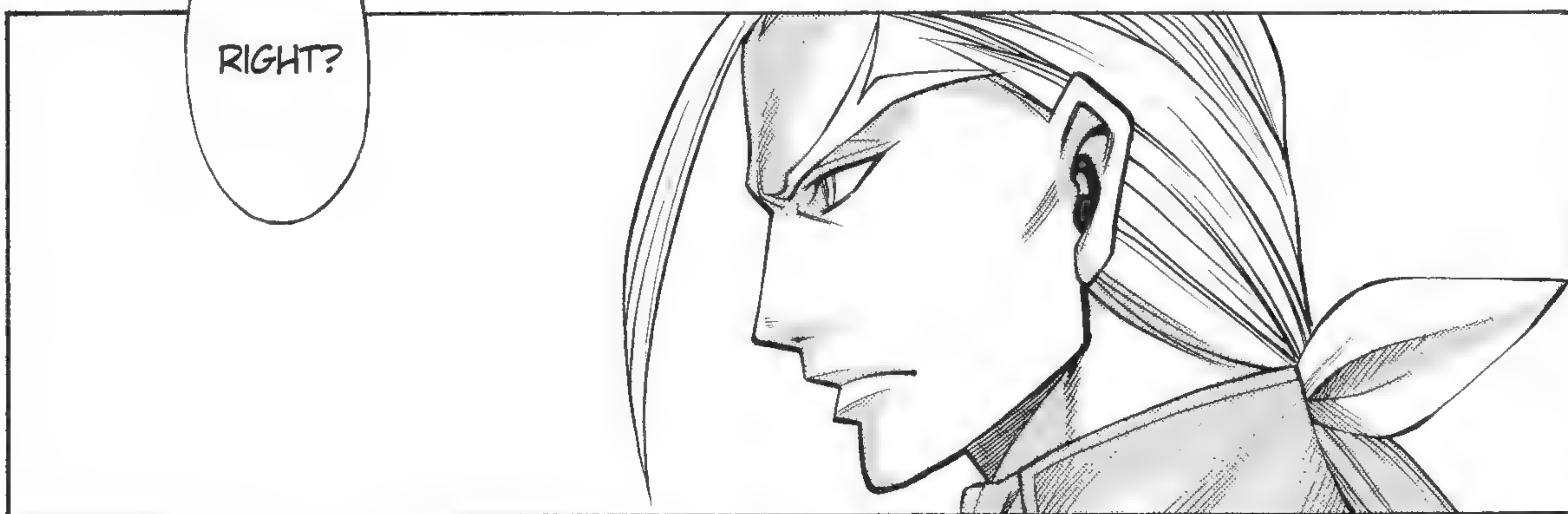
HE
DOESN'T
HAVE
TO DO
WHAT
I DID!

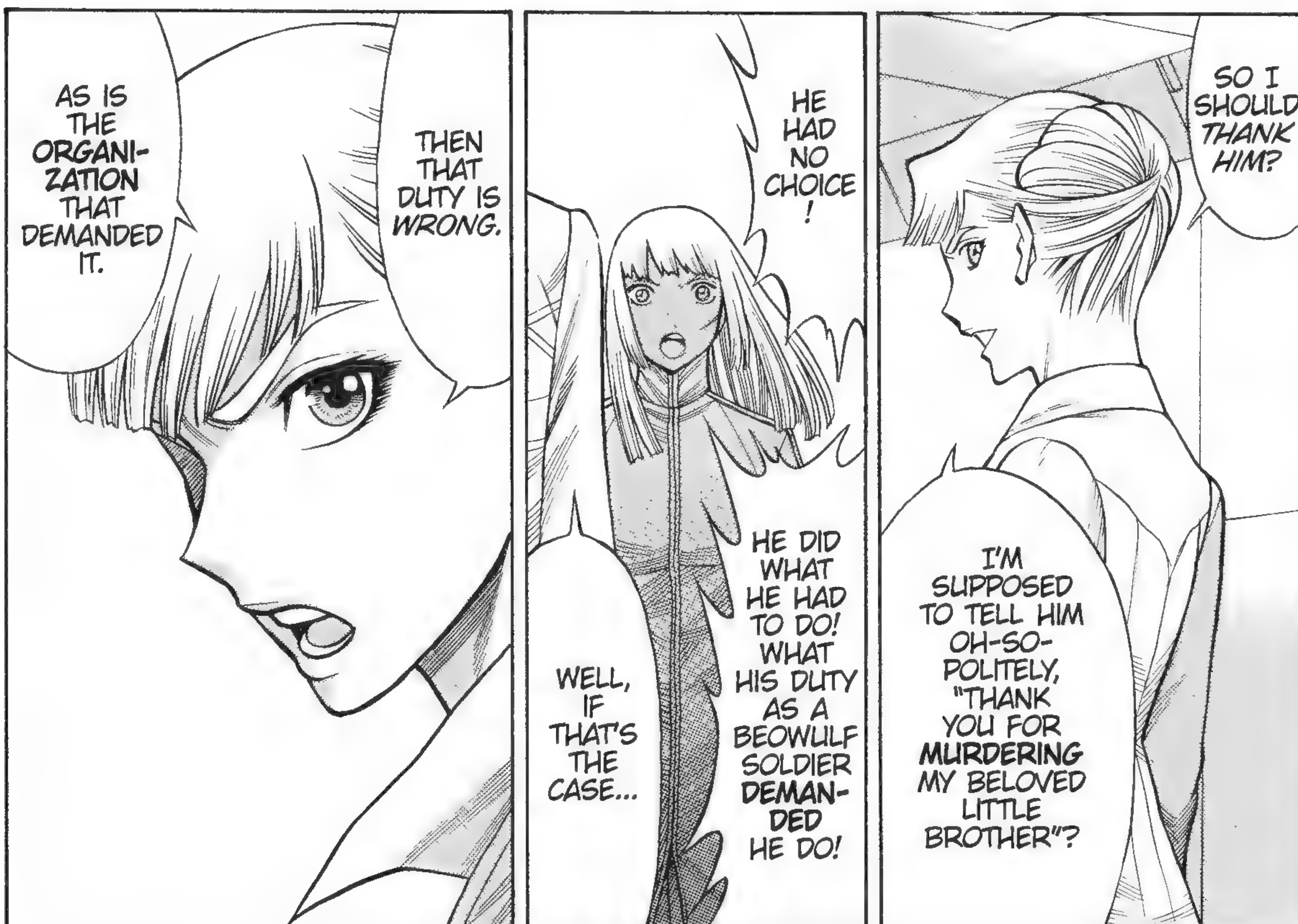
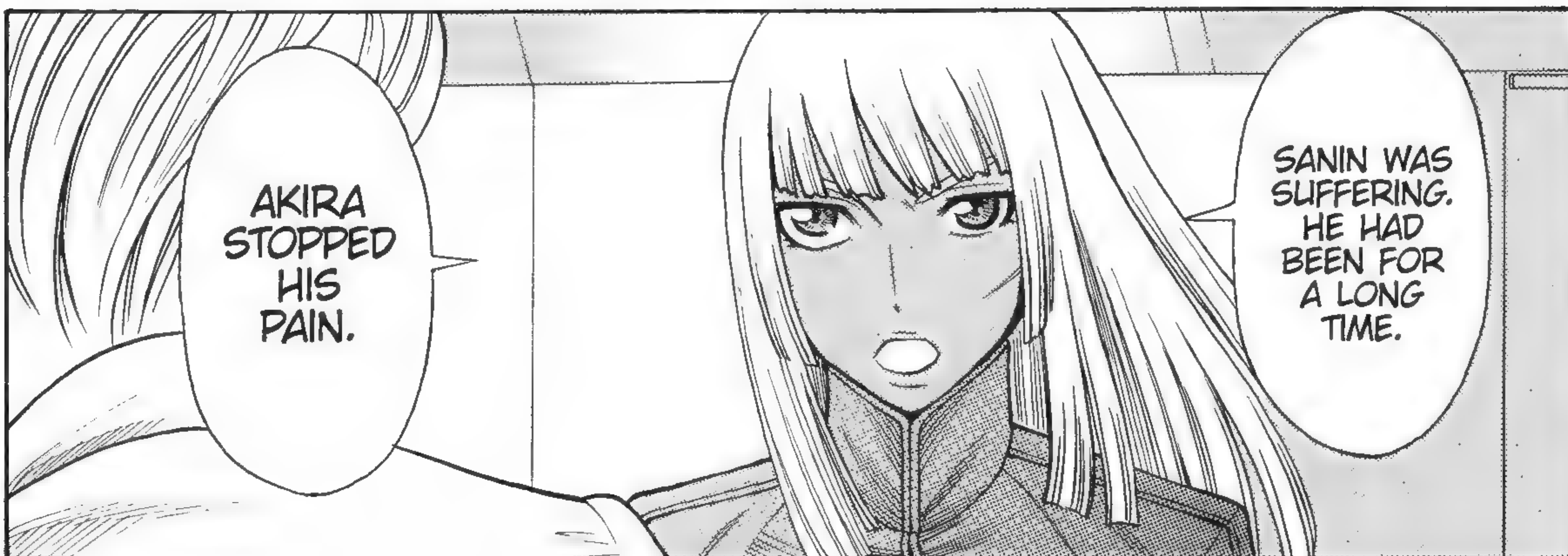
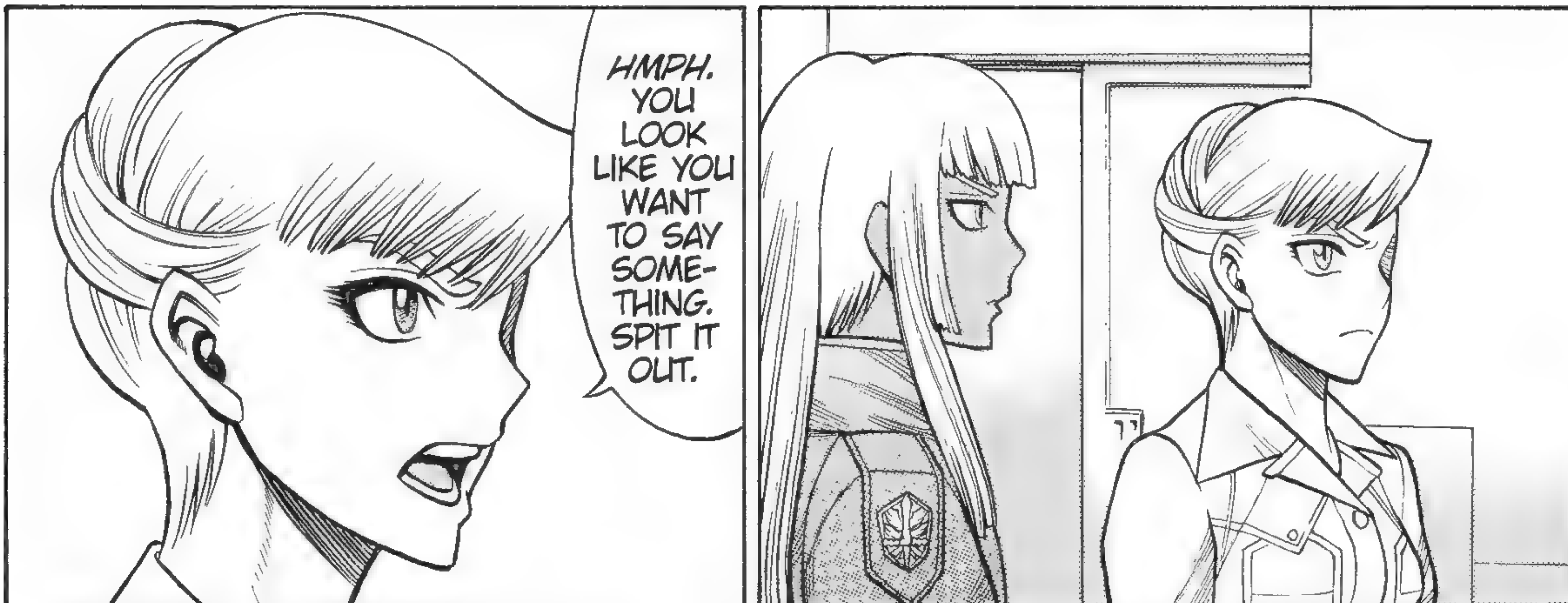
HE
DOESN'T
HAVE TO
BE WHAT
I AM.
HE CAN
STAY
SAFE!
STAY
INNOCENT!

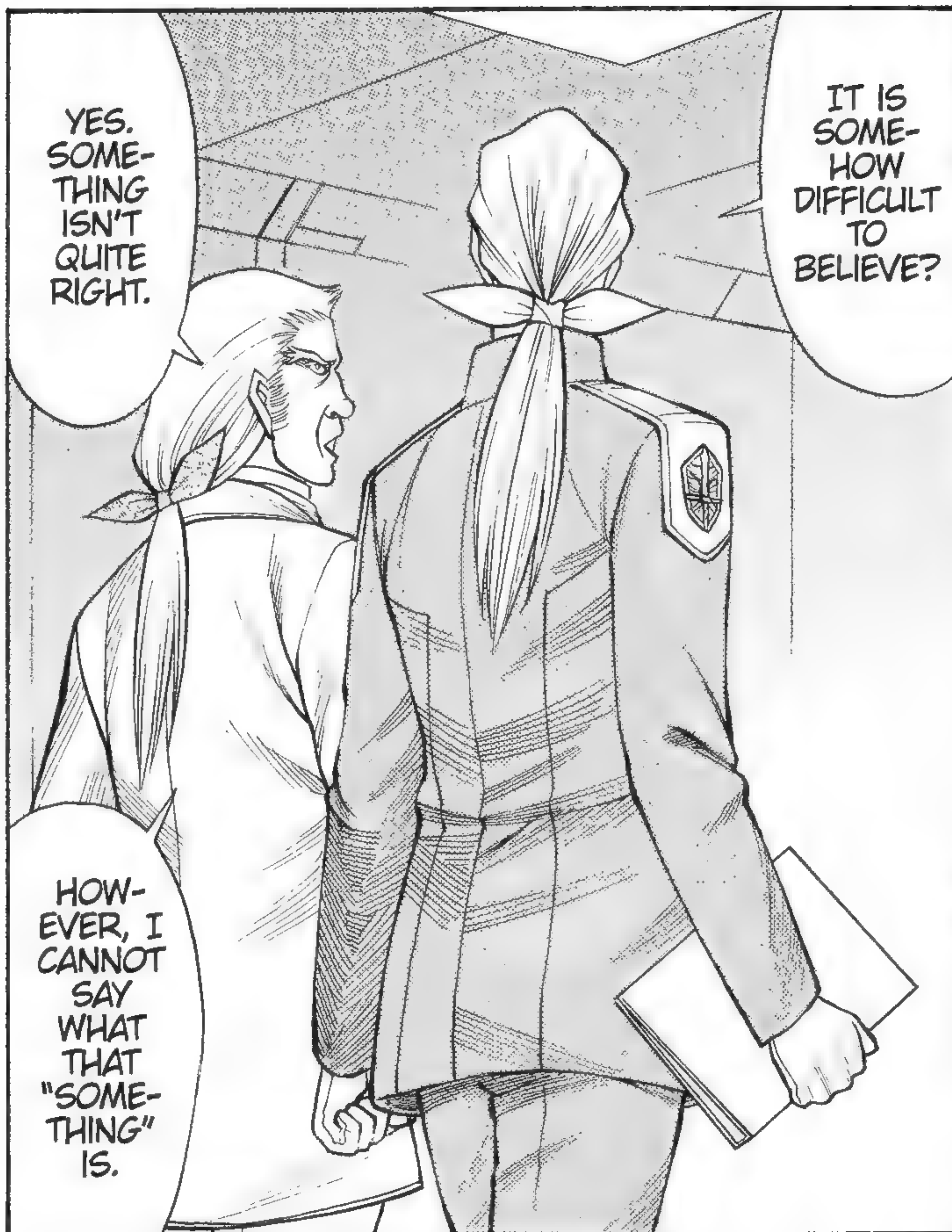
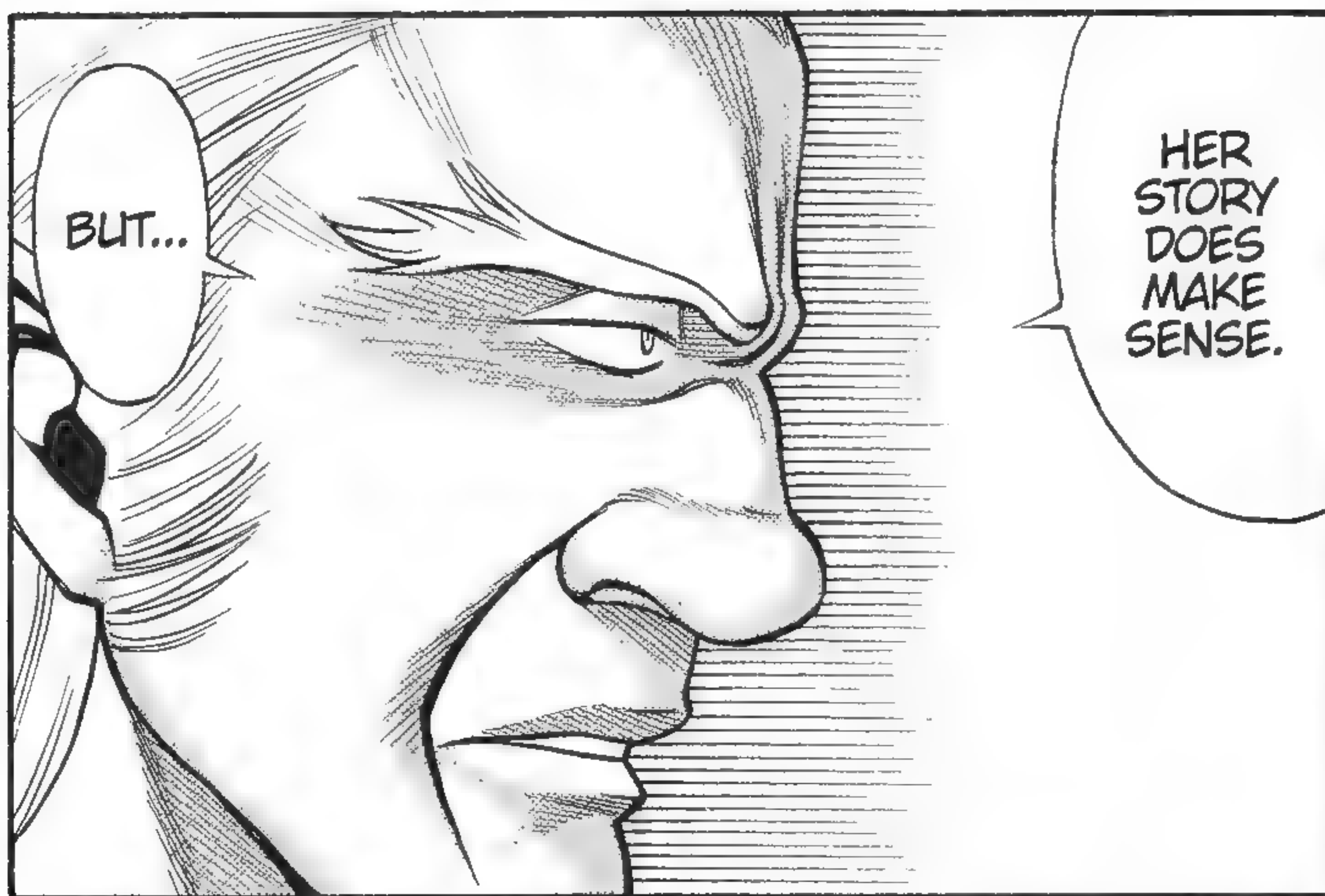
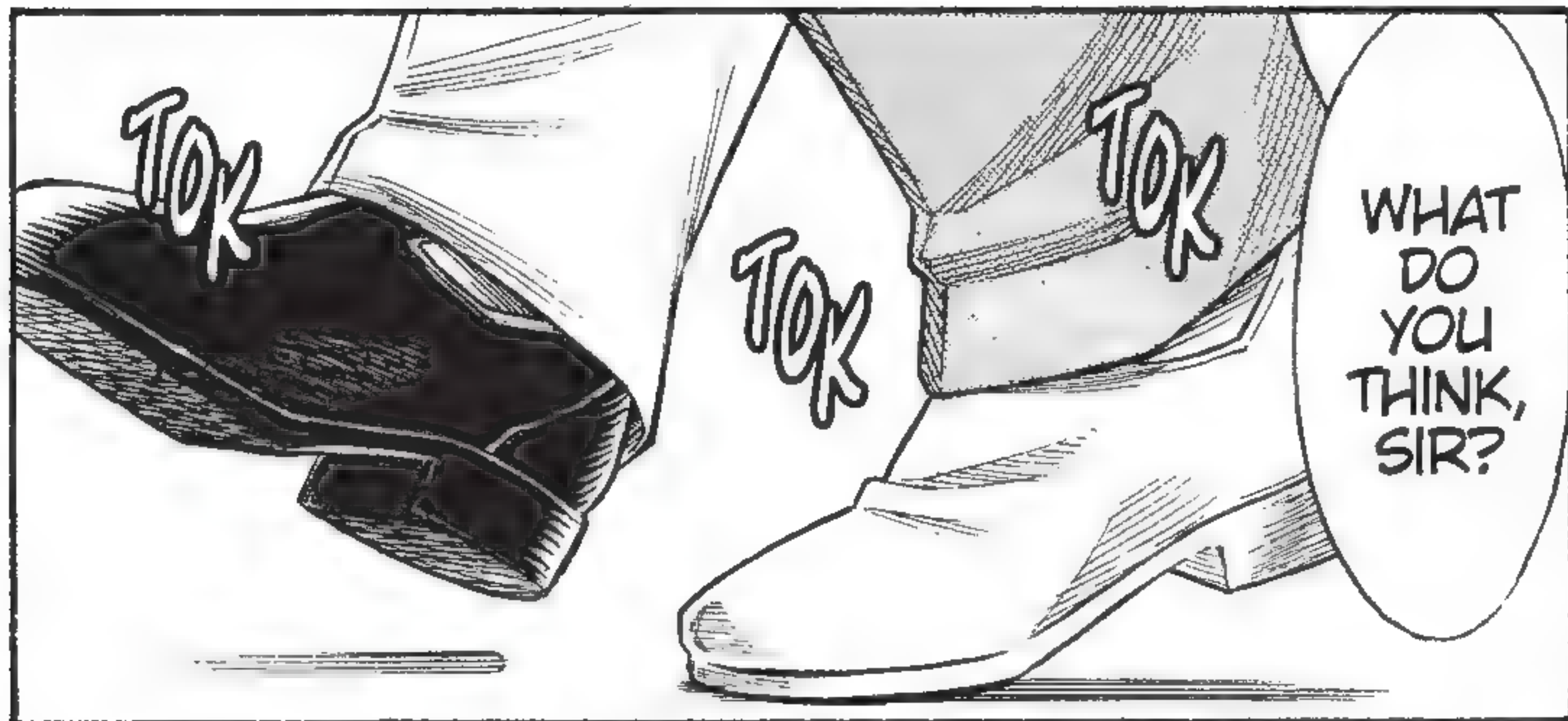
HE LIKELY
HOPED
HE COULD
SHARE
THEM
WITH YOU.

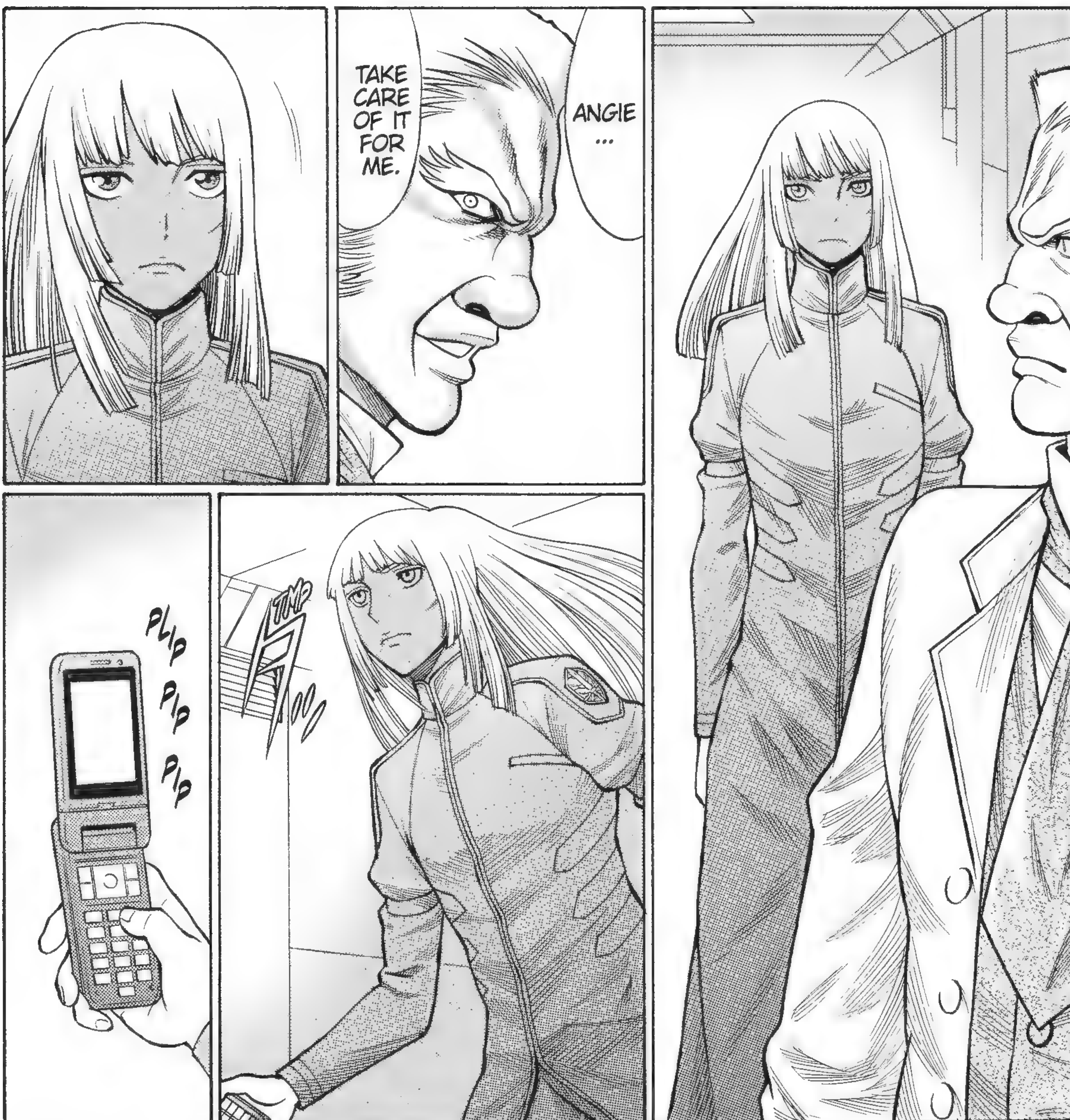
...



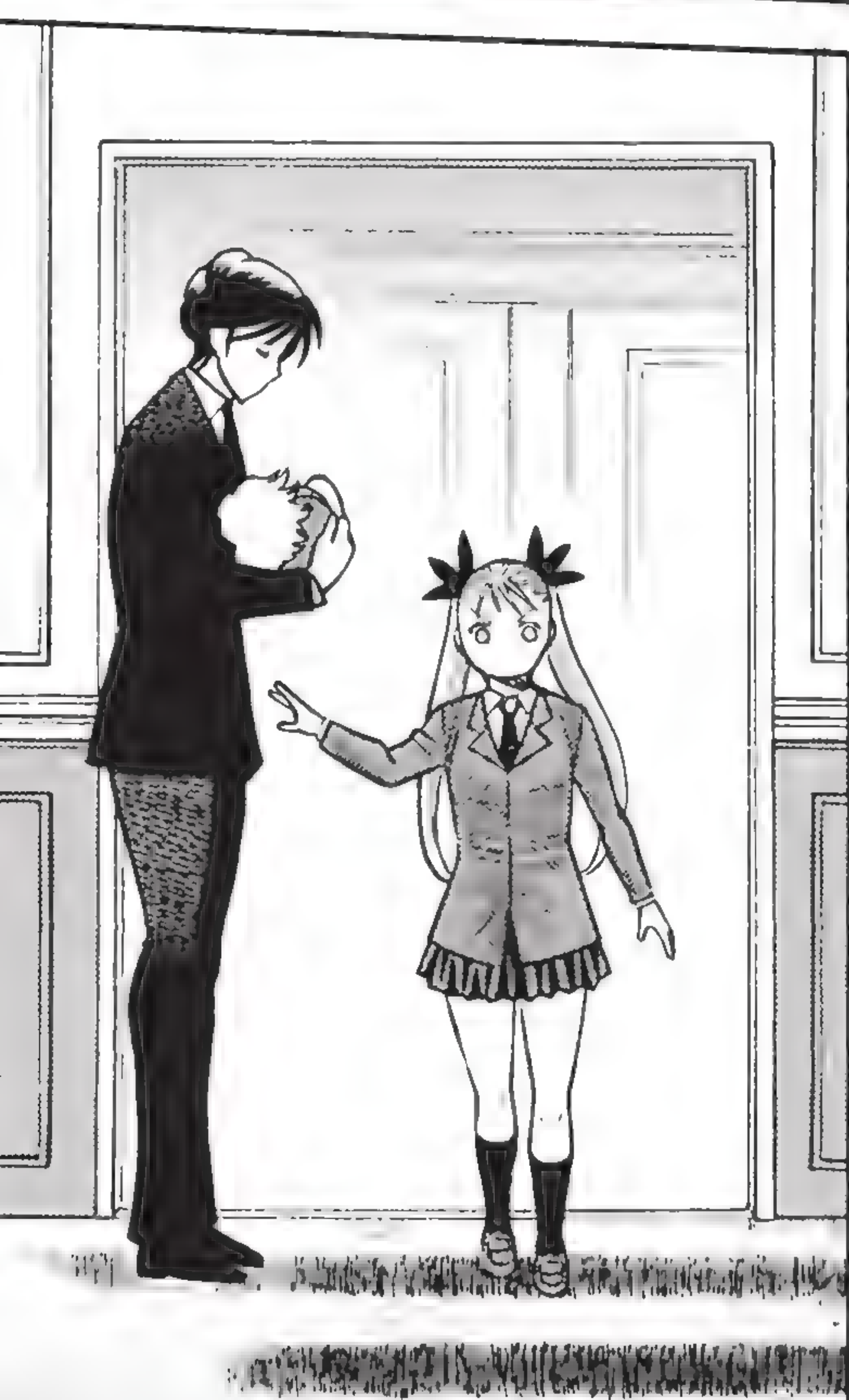
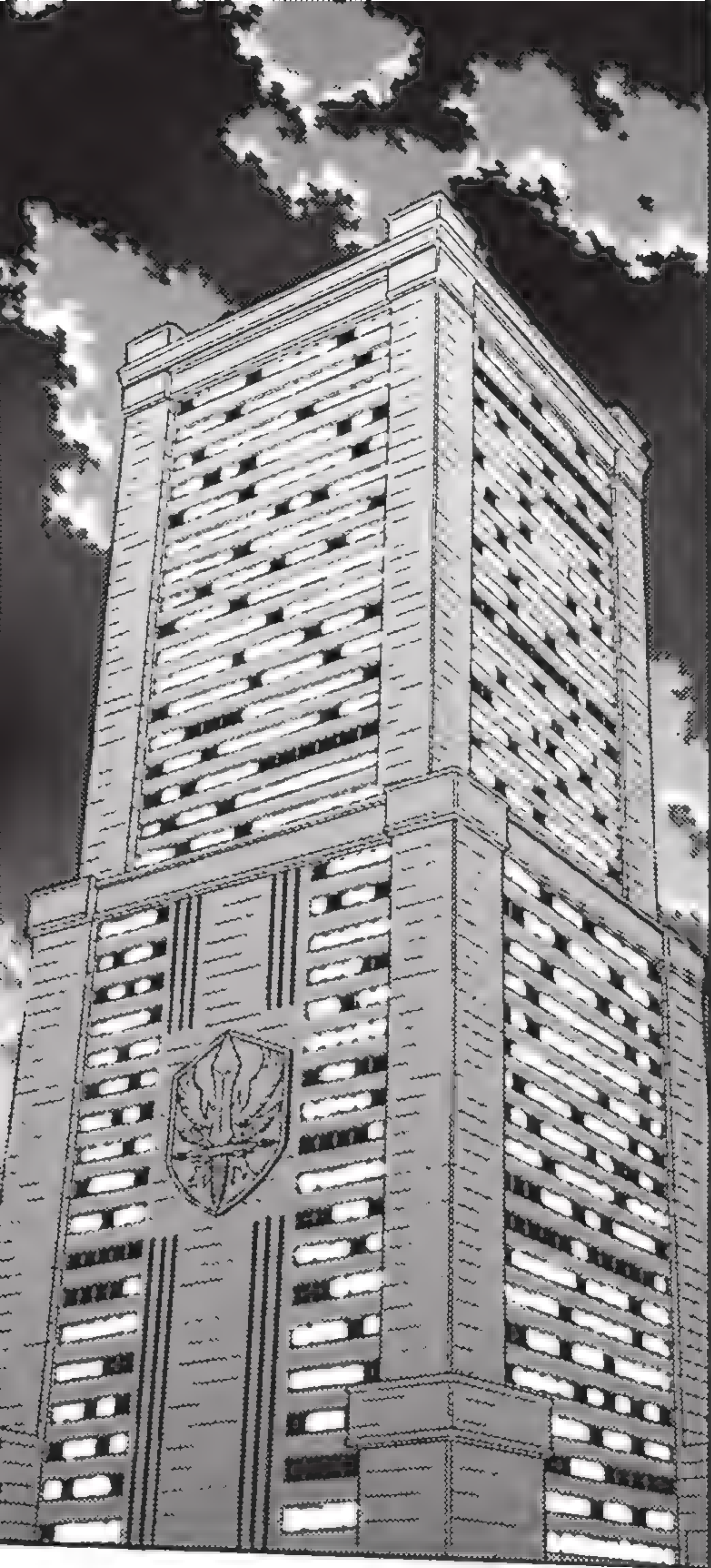


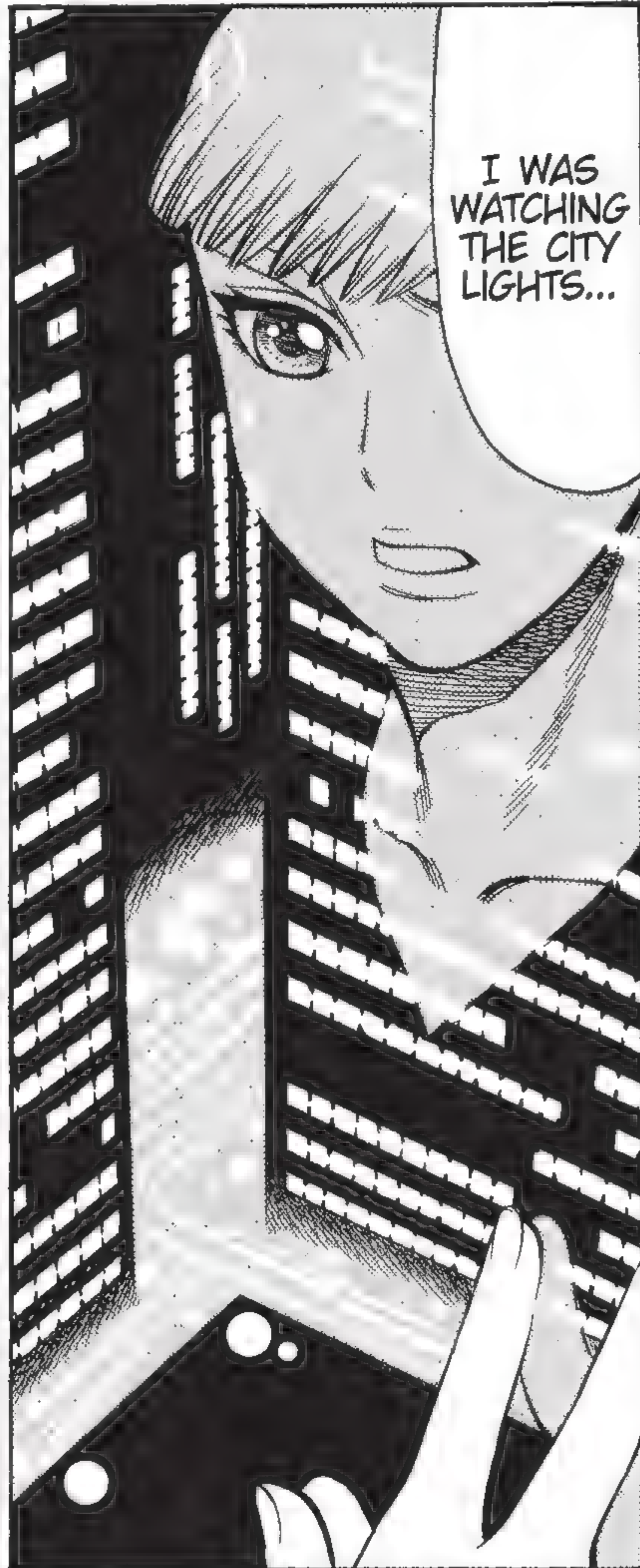
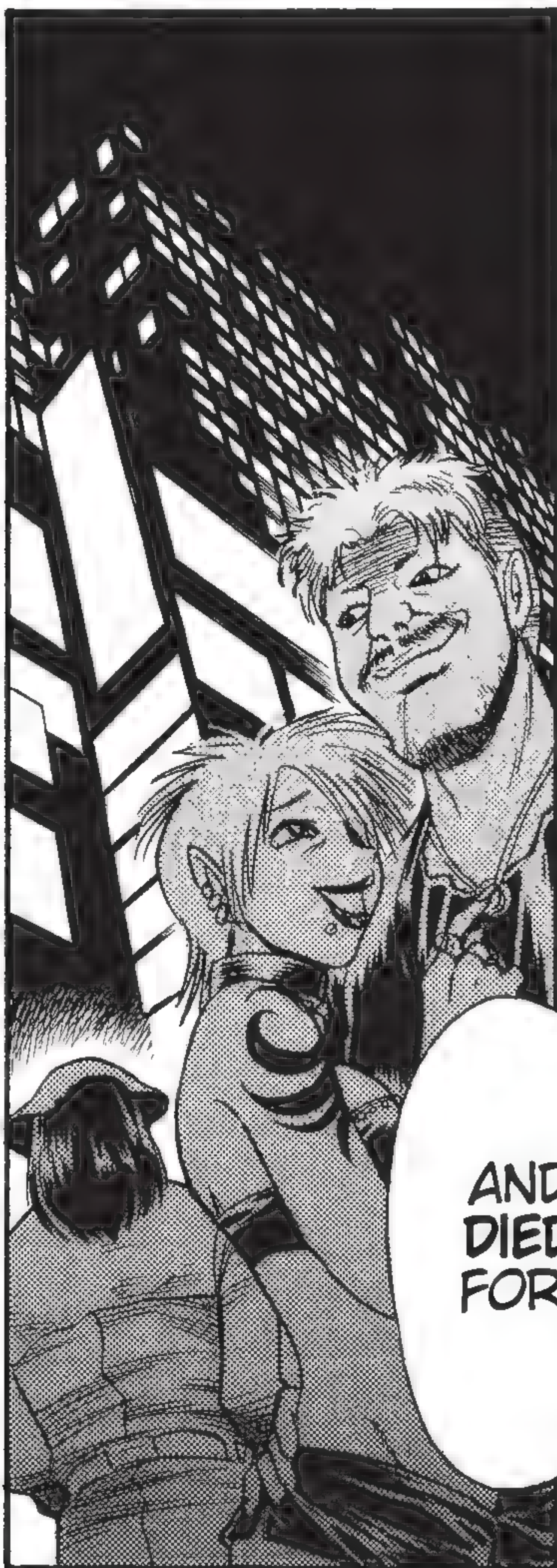
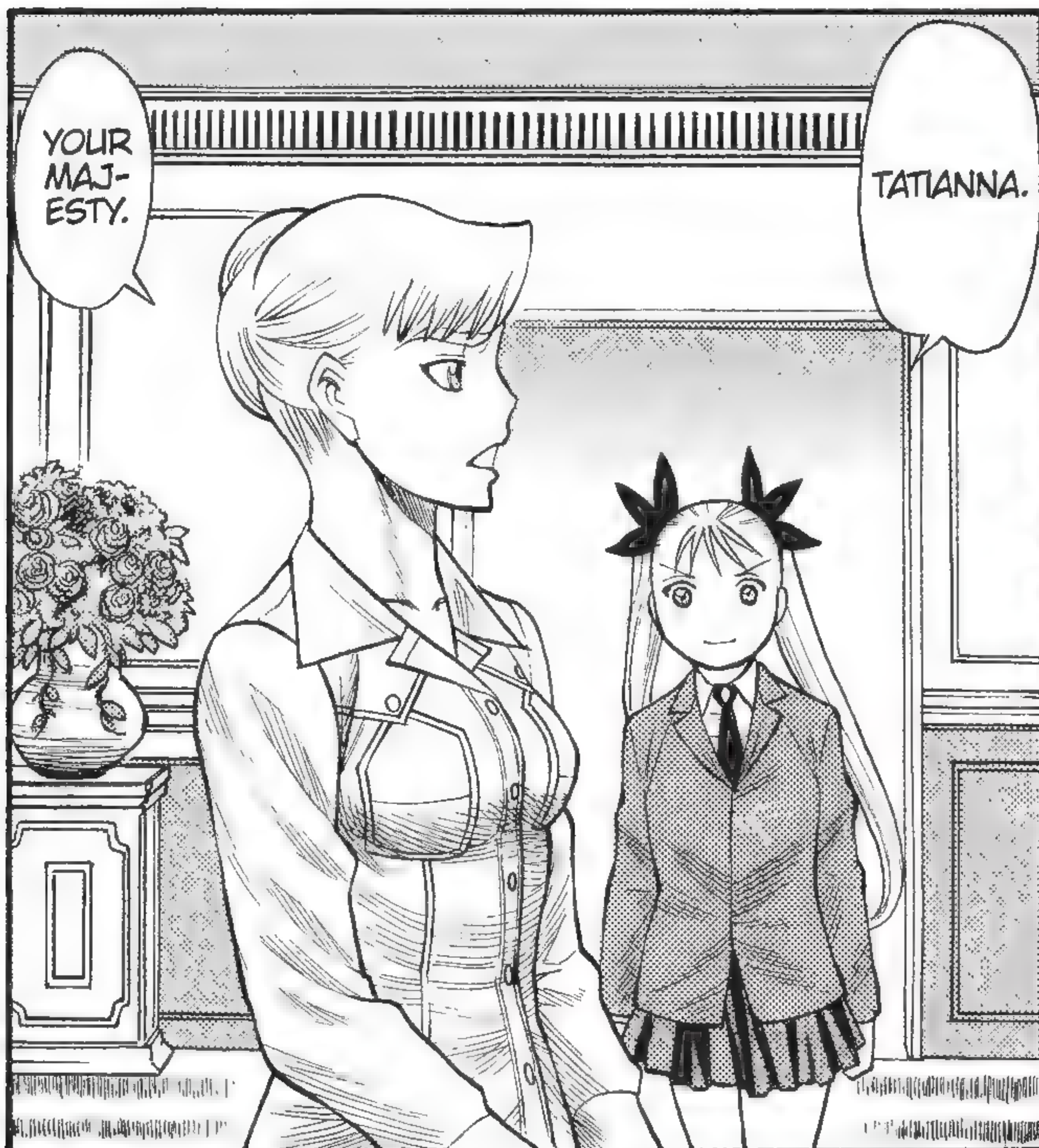


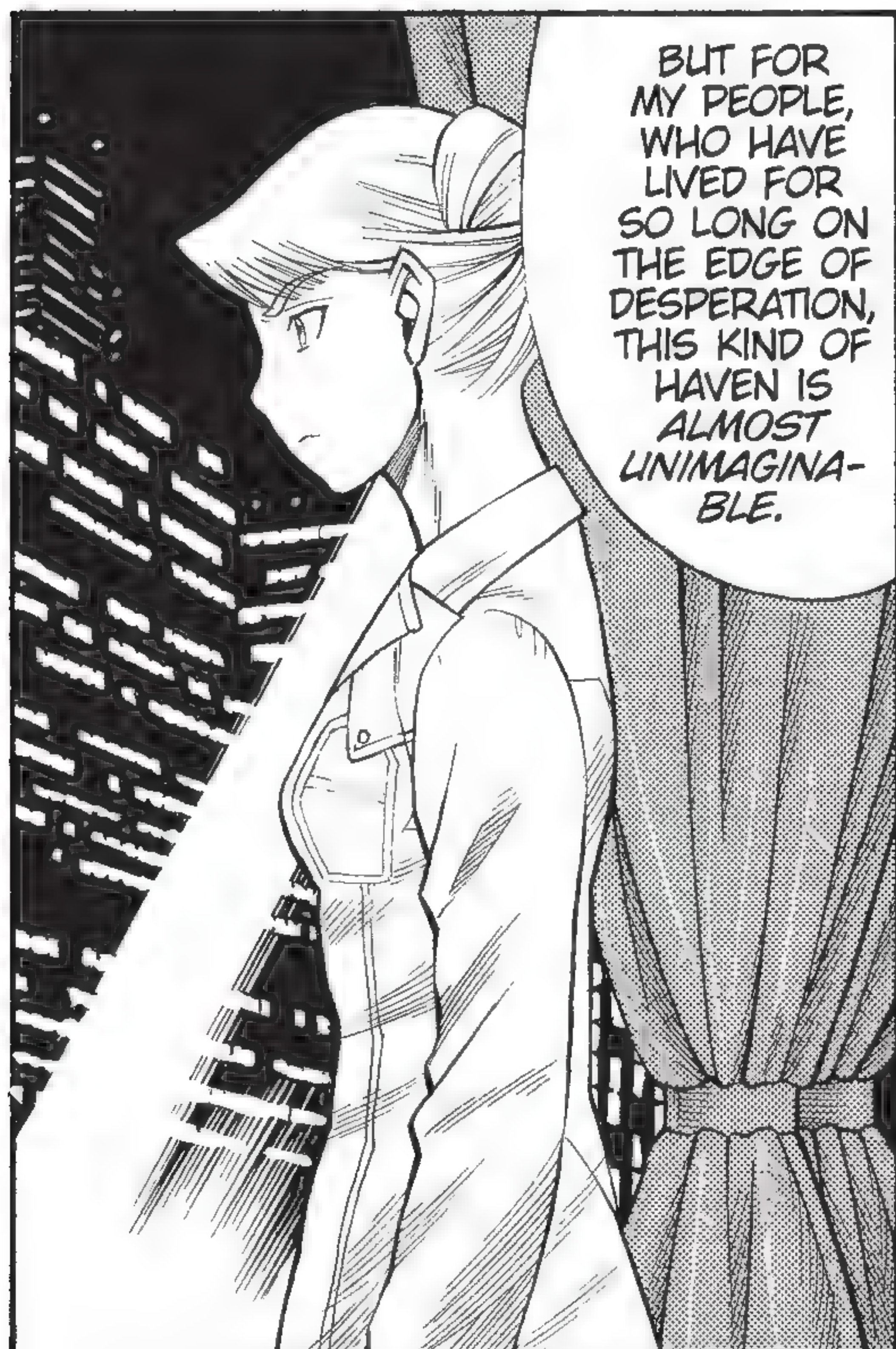


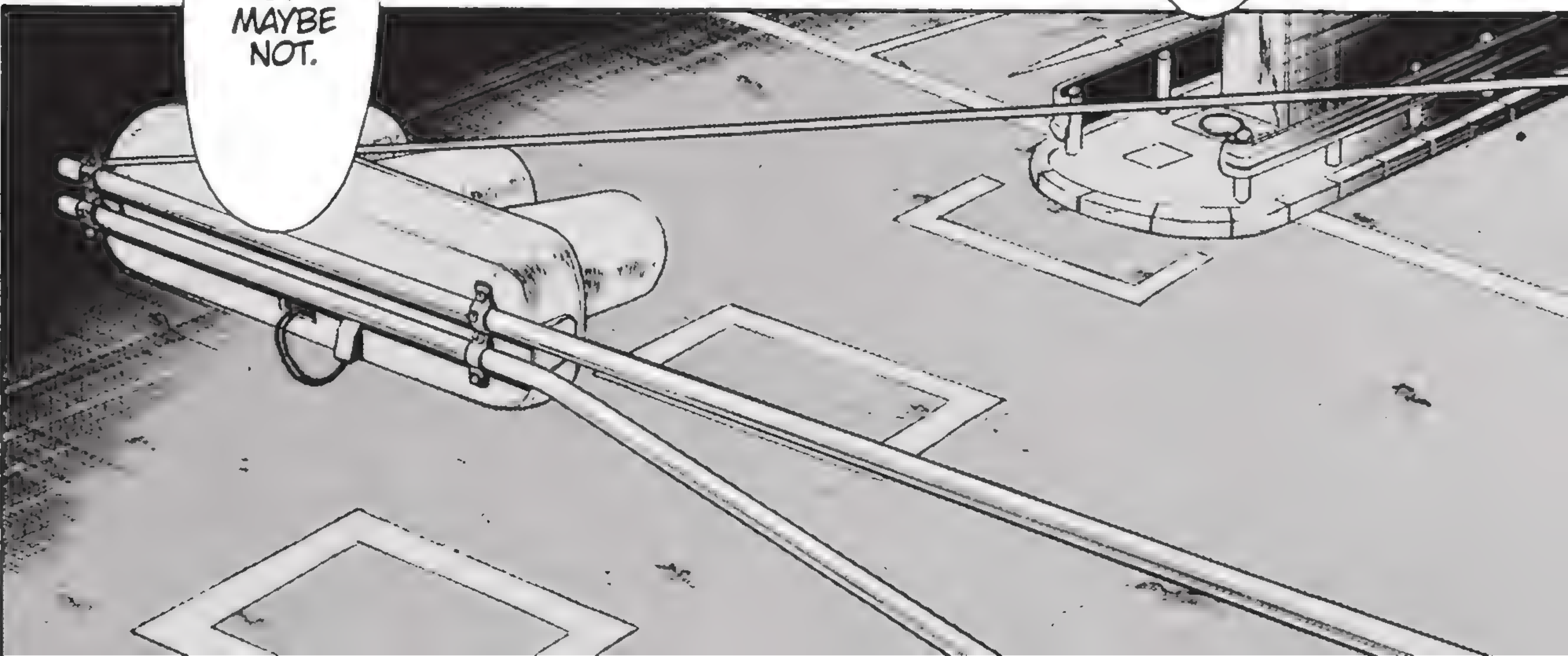
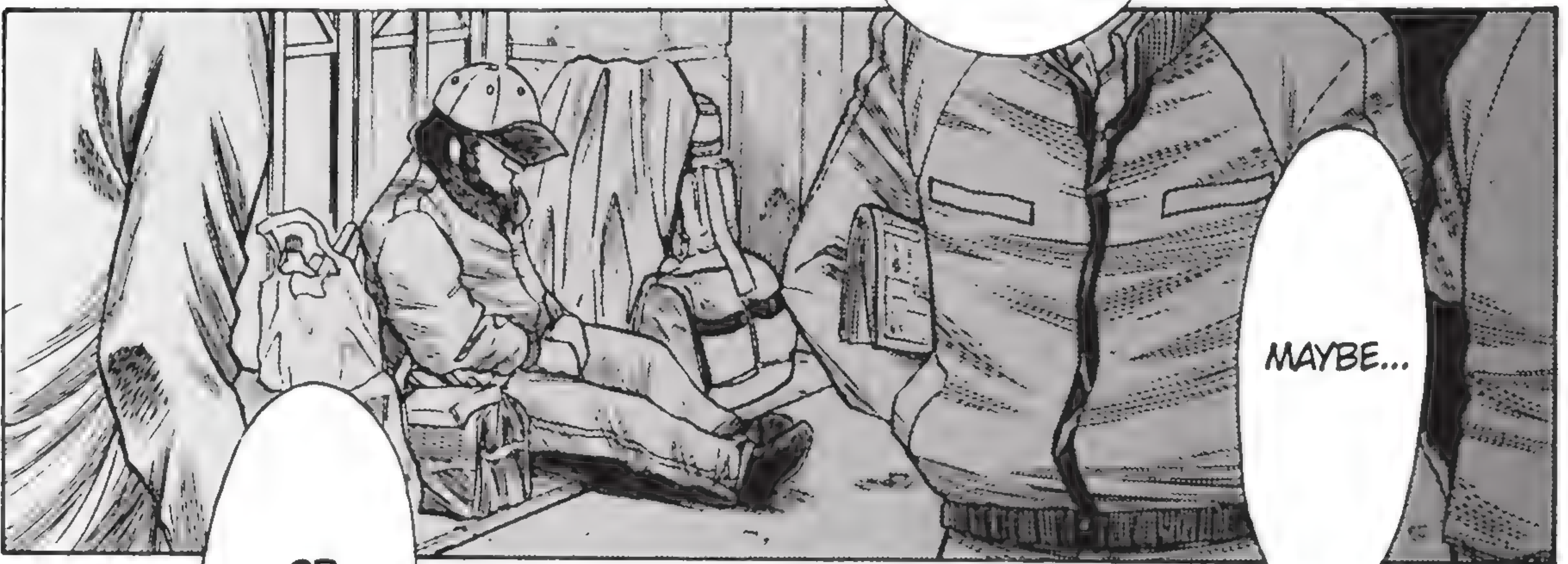
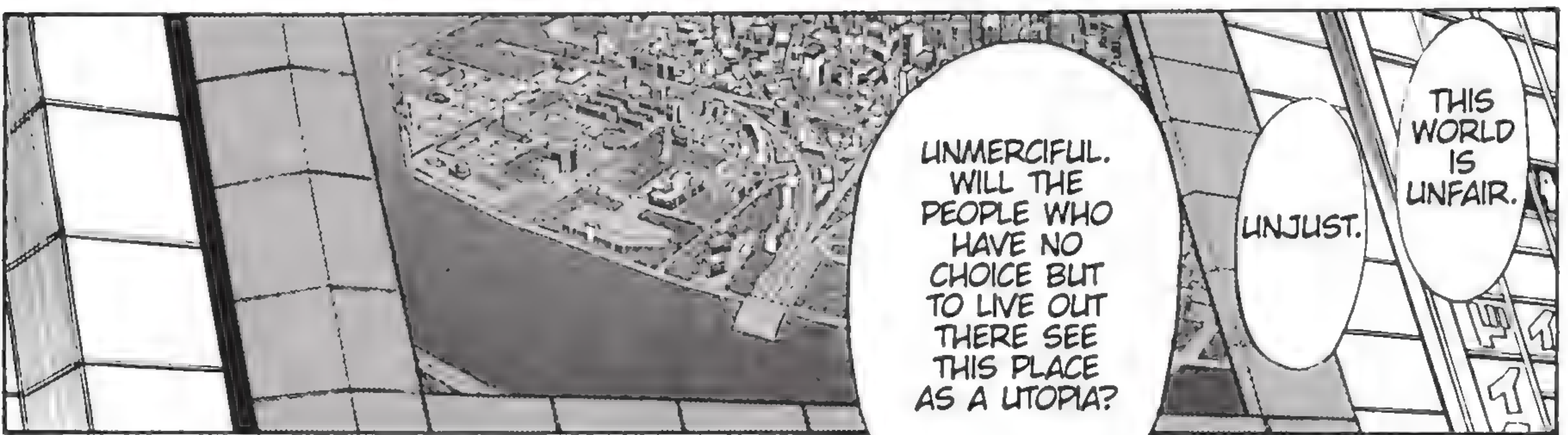
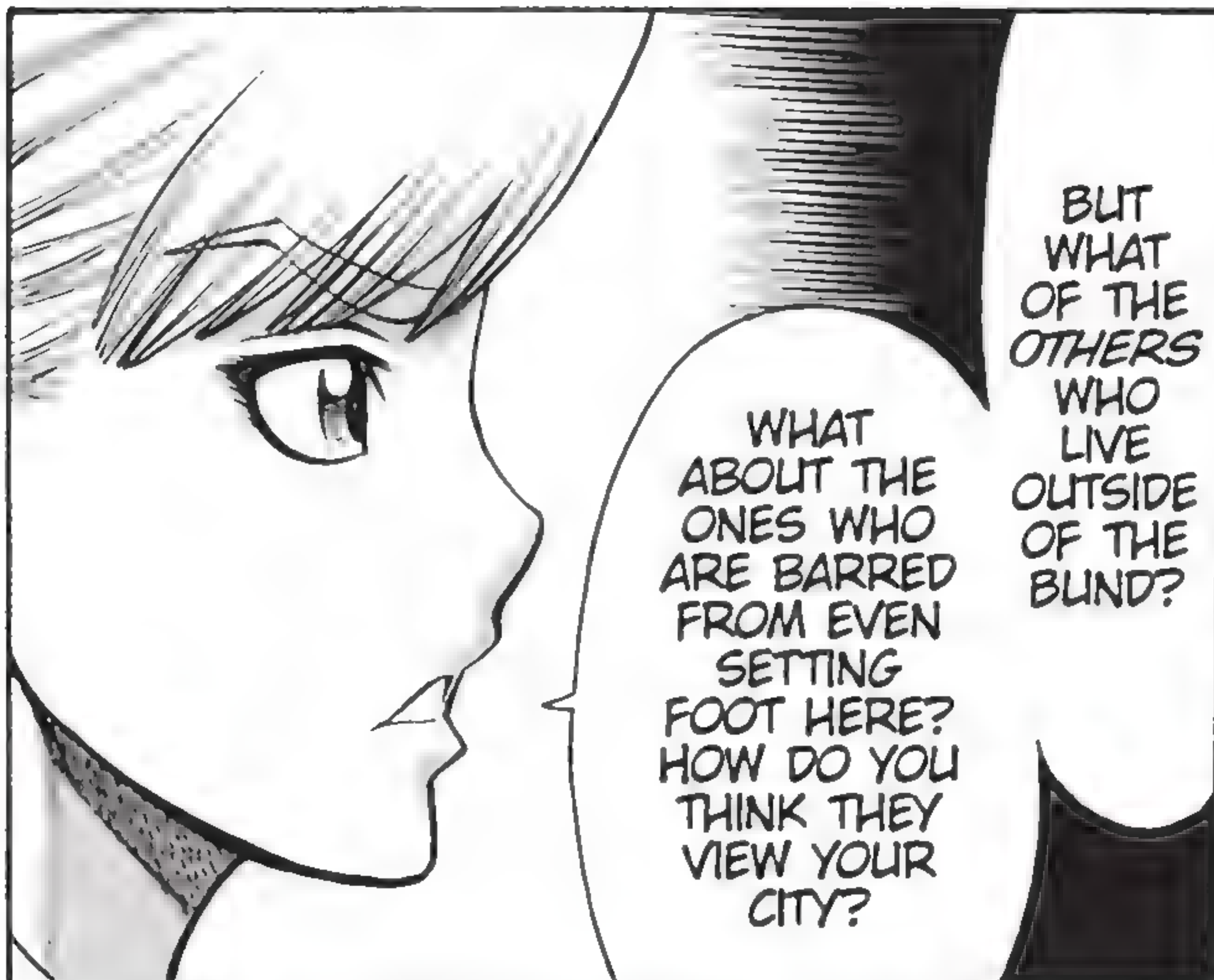


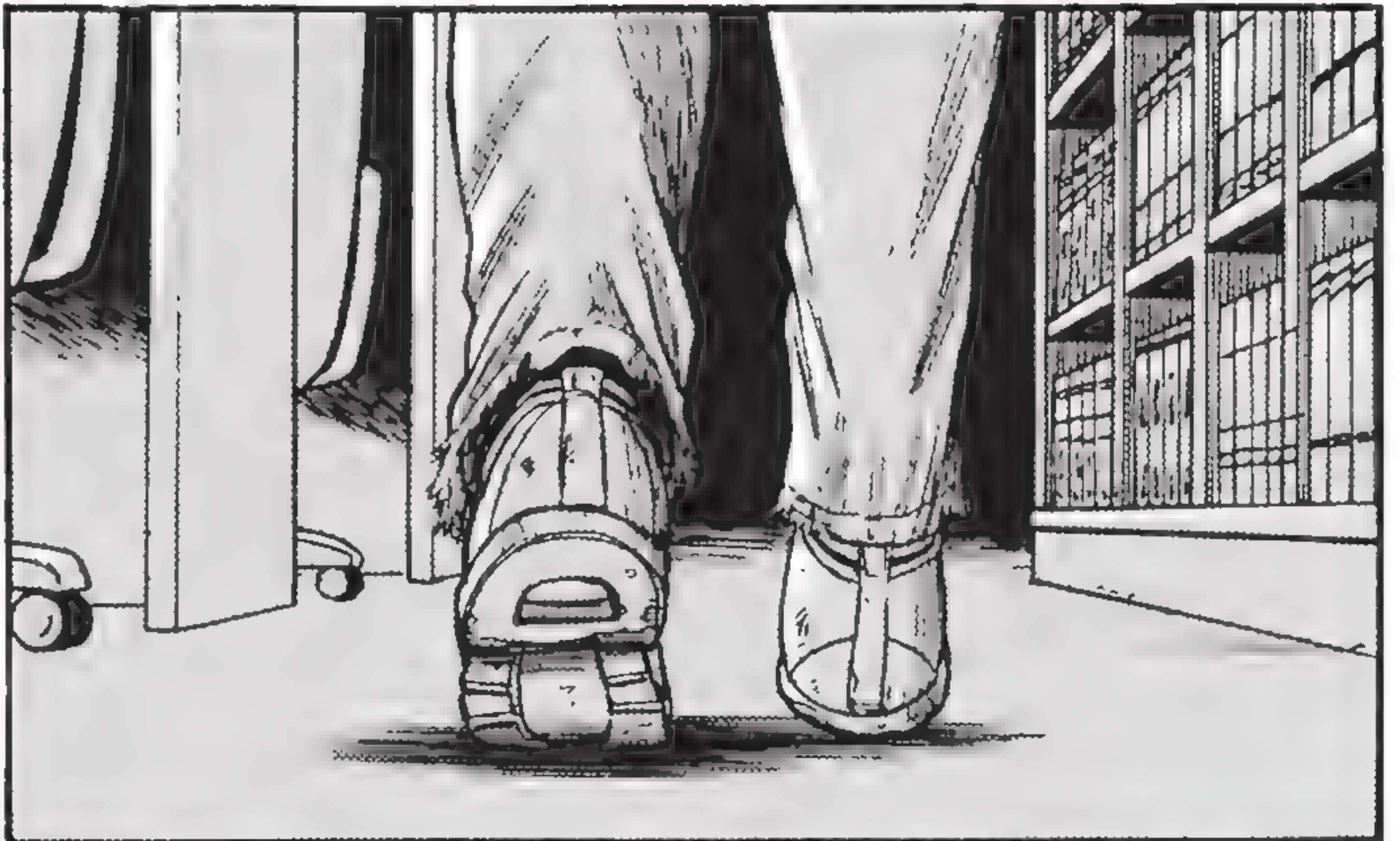


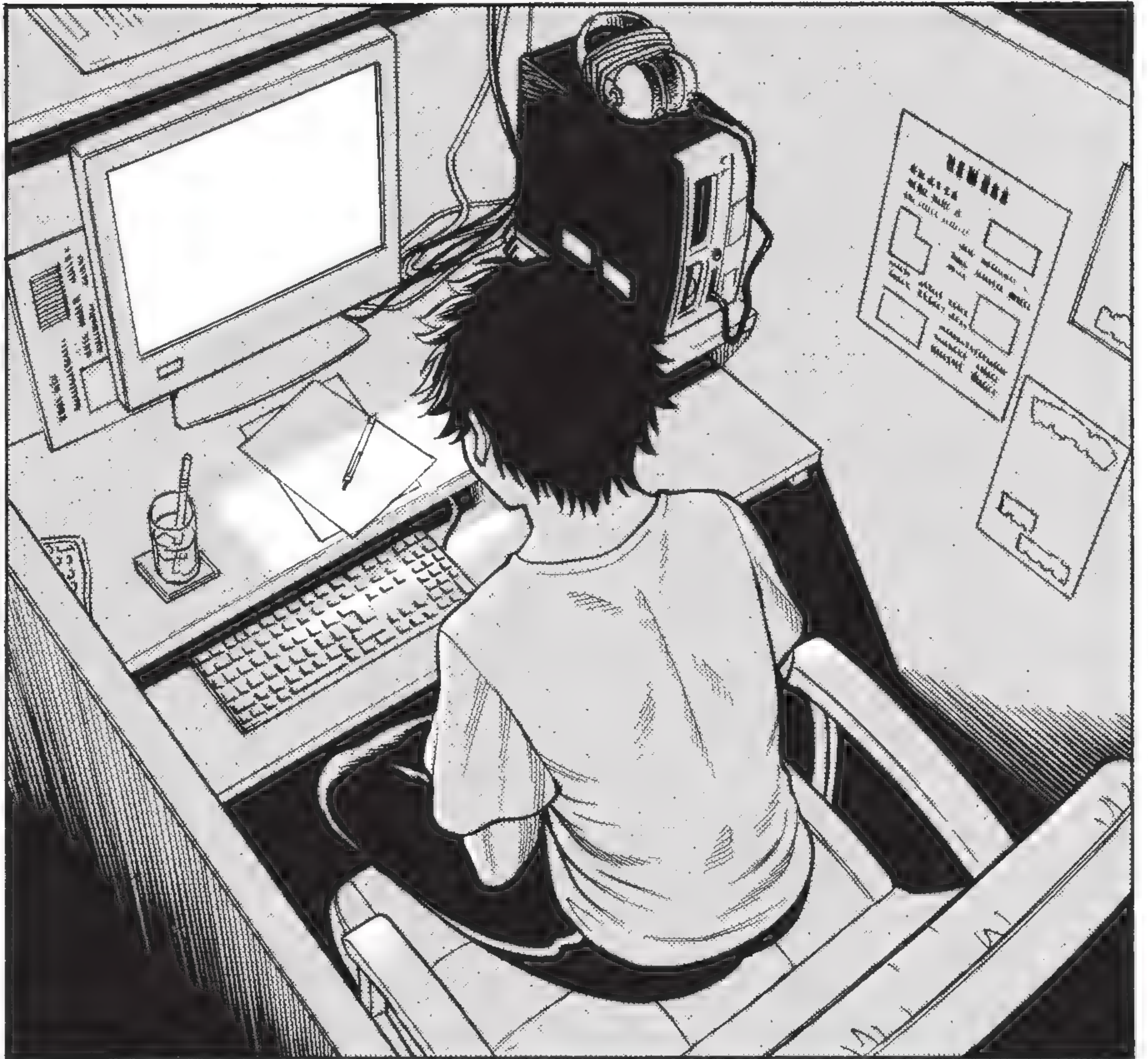










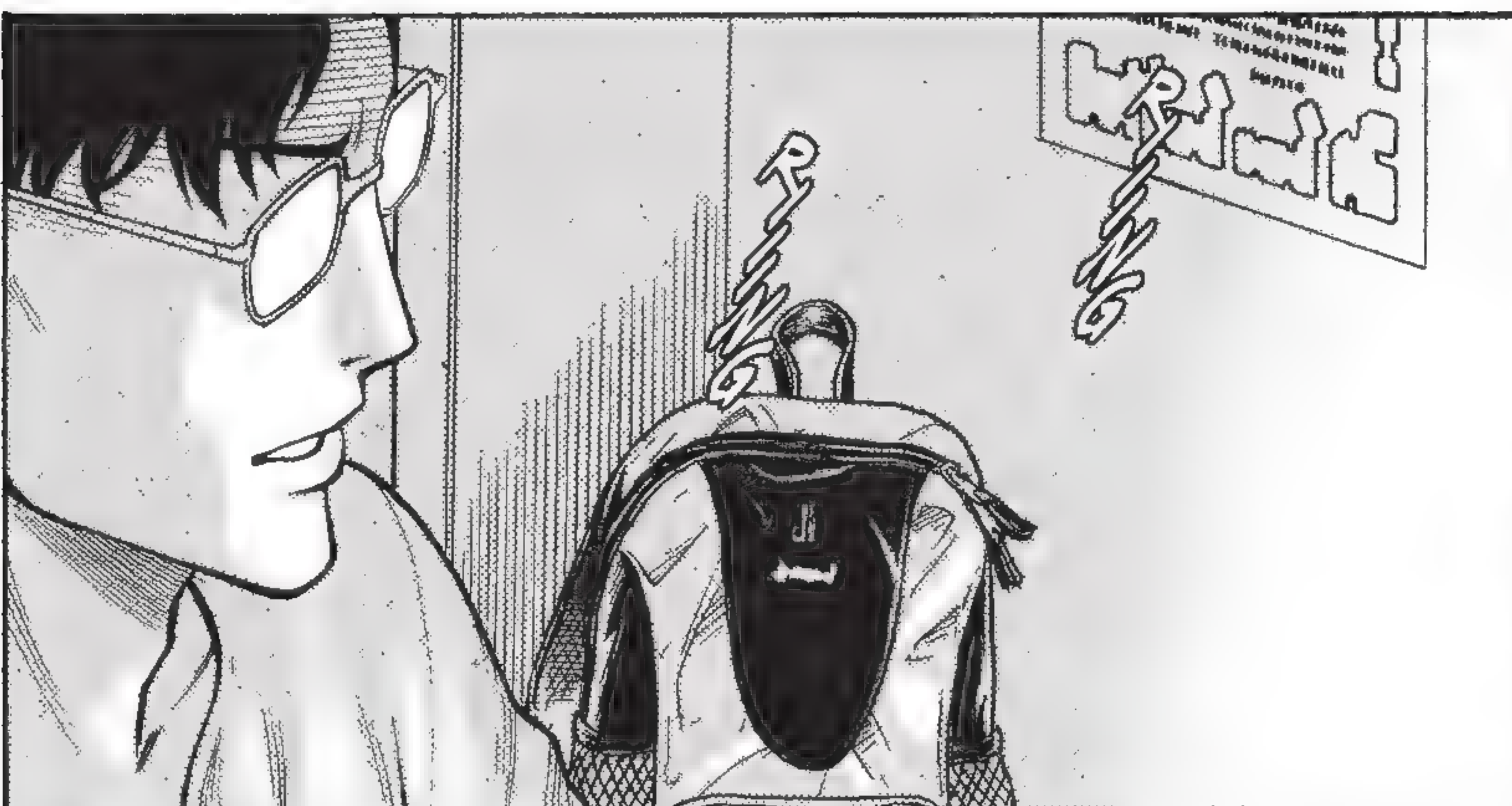
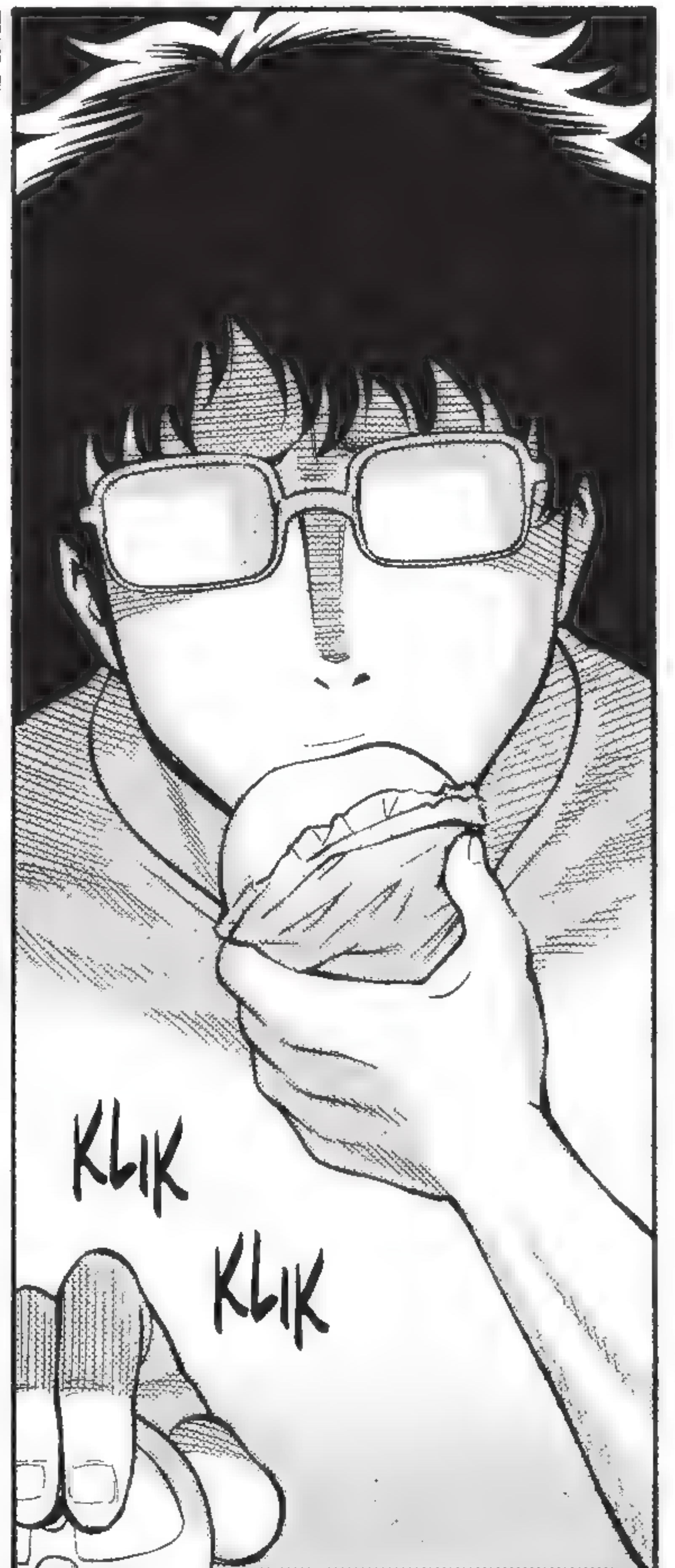


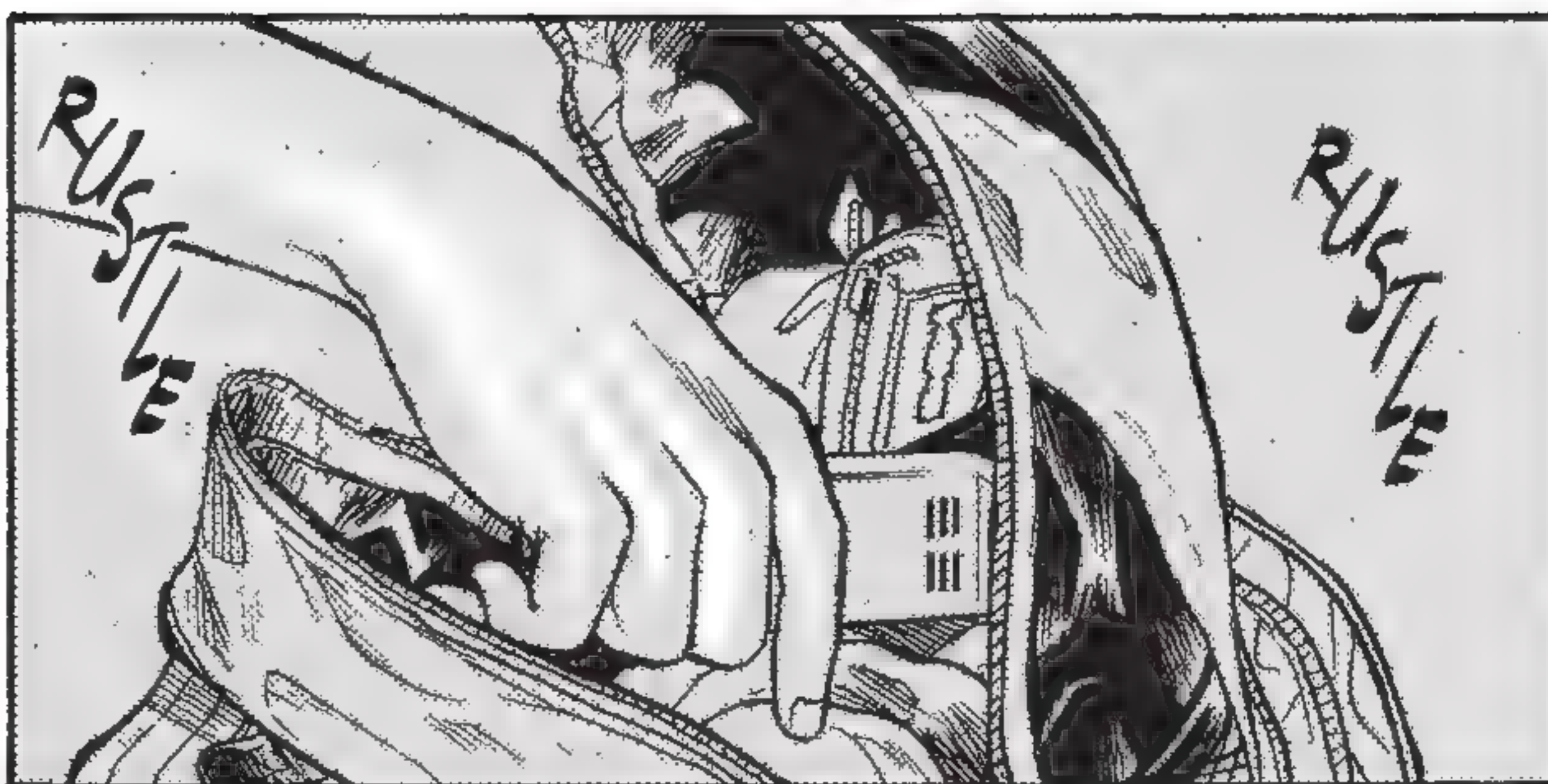
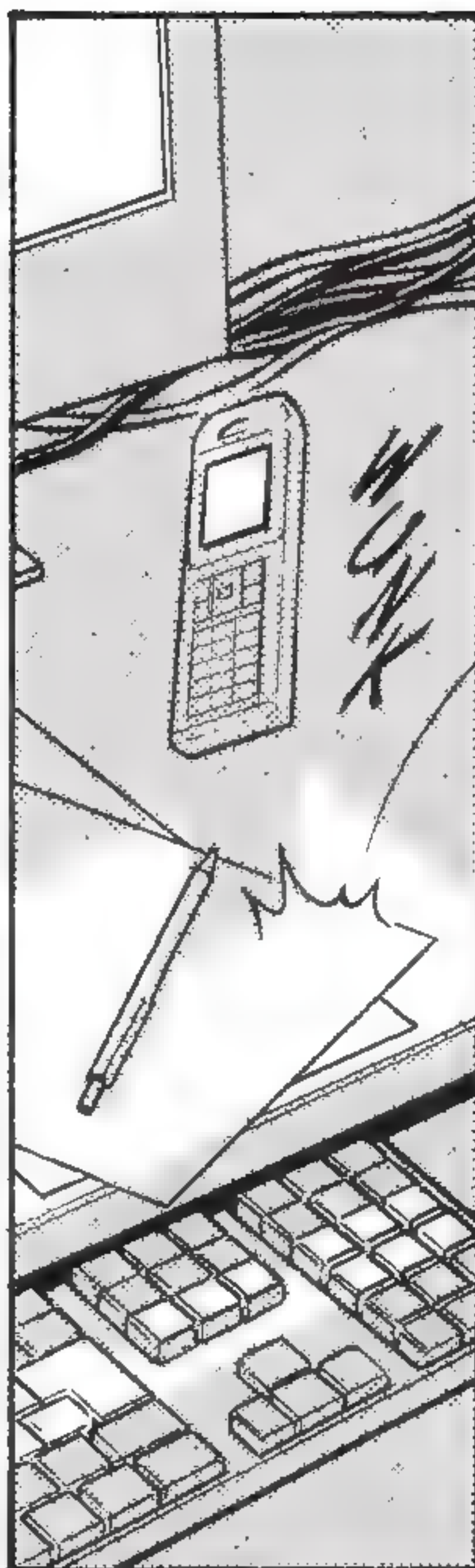
881 :NAMELESSFORTODAY: 200X/03/05(THUR) 03:14:51
IS IT JUST ME, OR HAS THE AGENCY BEEN SENDING, LIKE, NO MAIL
LATELY?

882 :NAMELESS: 200X/03/05(THUR) 19:39:34
DUDE, IT'S BEEN 3 DAYS AND NADA. WHAT'RE WE SUPPOSED TO DO?
STARVE?

883 :NAMELESSFORTODAY: 200X/03/05(THUR) 20:06:17
IT'S THE ECONOMY, MAN. IT SUCKS.

884 :NAMELESSFORTODAY: 200X/03/06(FRI) 02:24:09
I'M IN SERIOUS TROUBLE HERE, GUYS. I'M SO BROKE I CAN BARELY
PAY FOR THE NET CAFE ANYMORE!

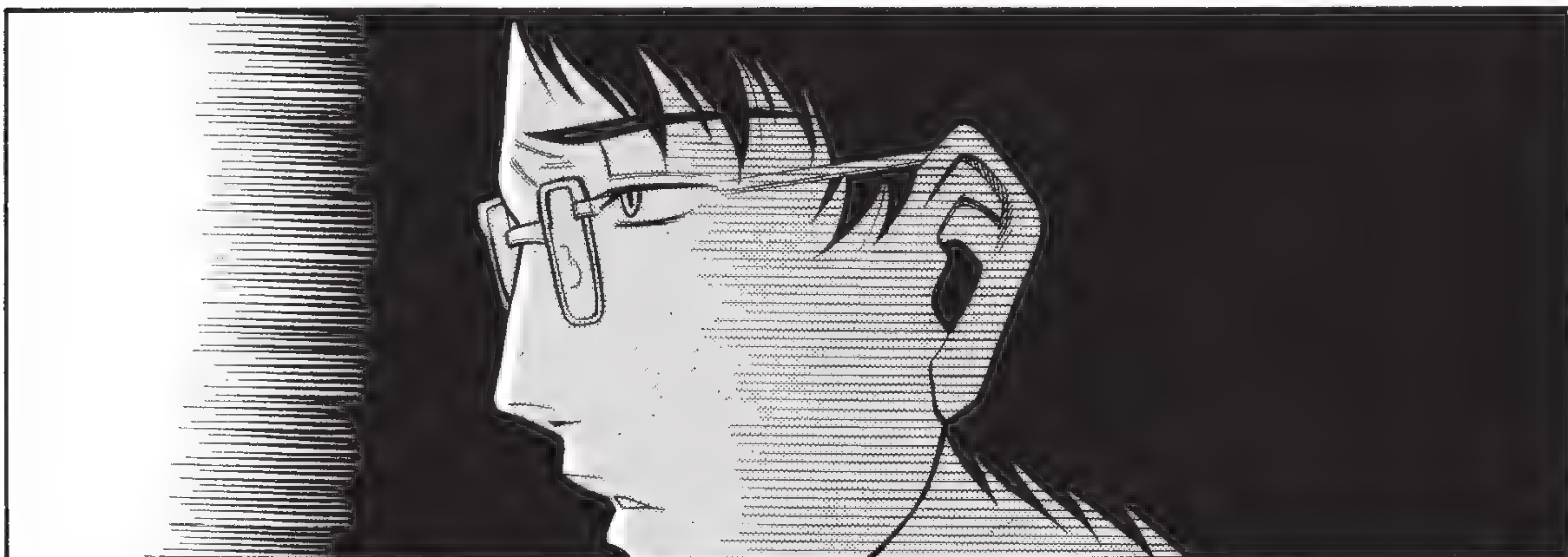




891 :NAMELESSFORTODAY: 200X/03/07(SAT) 03:26:01
A LITTLE WHILE AGO, I TURNED DOWN SOME TEMP OFFERINGS BECAUSE I ALREADY HAD
WORK. NOW THEY DON'T EVEN BOTHER TO CALL ME AT ALL.

892 :NAMELESSFORTODAY: 200X/03/07(SAT) 03:57:23
AND THERE IT IS. LAID OFF.

893 :NAMELESSFORTODAY: 200X/03/07(SAT) 04:15:03
DAMN TEMP AGENCIES. DON'T EVEN KNOW THE MEANING OF THE WORDS "WORKER'S
COMP."



897 :NAMELESSFORTODAY: 200X/03/07(SAT) 16:35:
MAN, I WANNA BE A VAMPIRE.

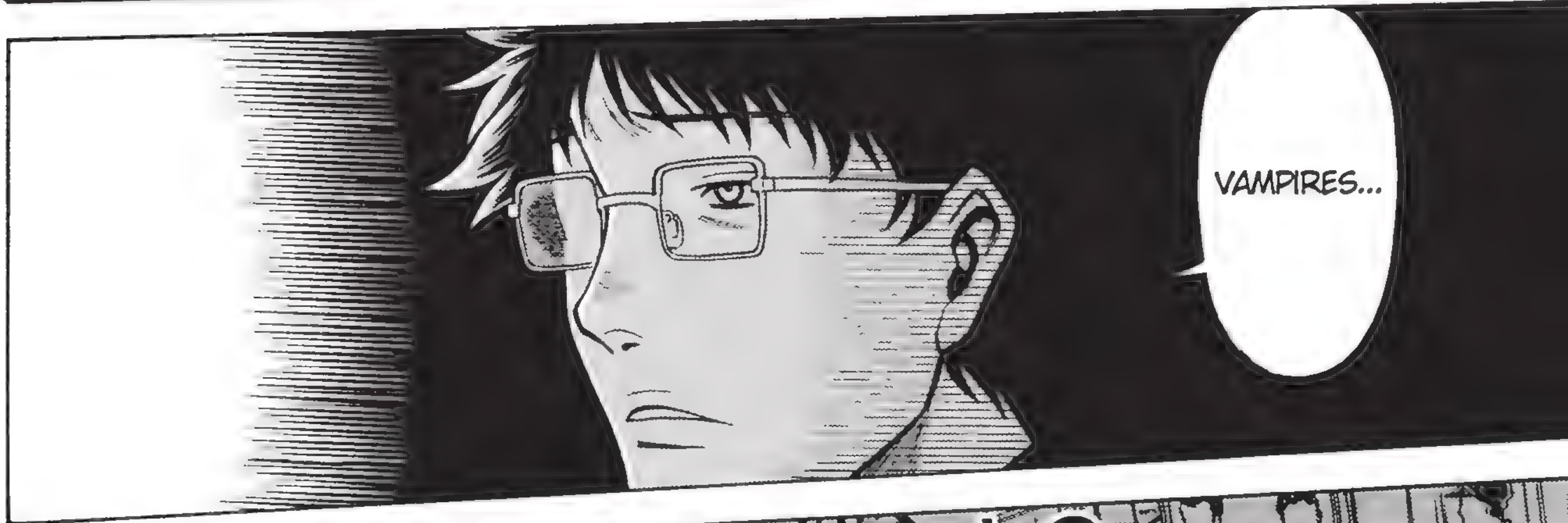
898 :NAMELESSFORTODAY: 200X/03/07(SAT) 16:35:
WHERE THE HELL DID THAT COME FROM?

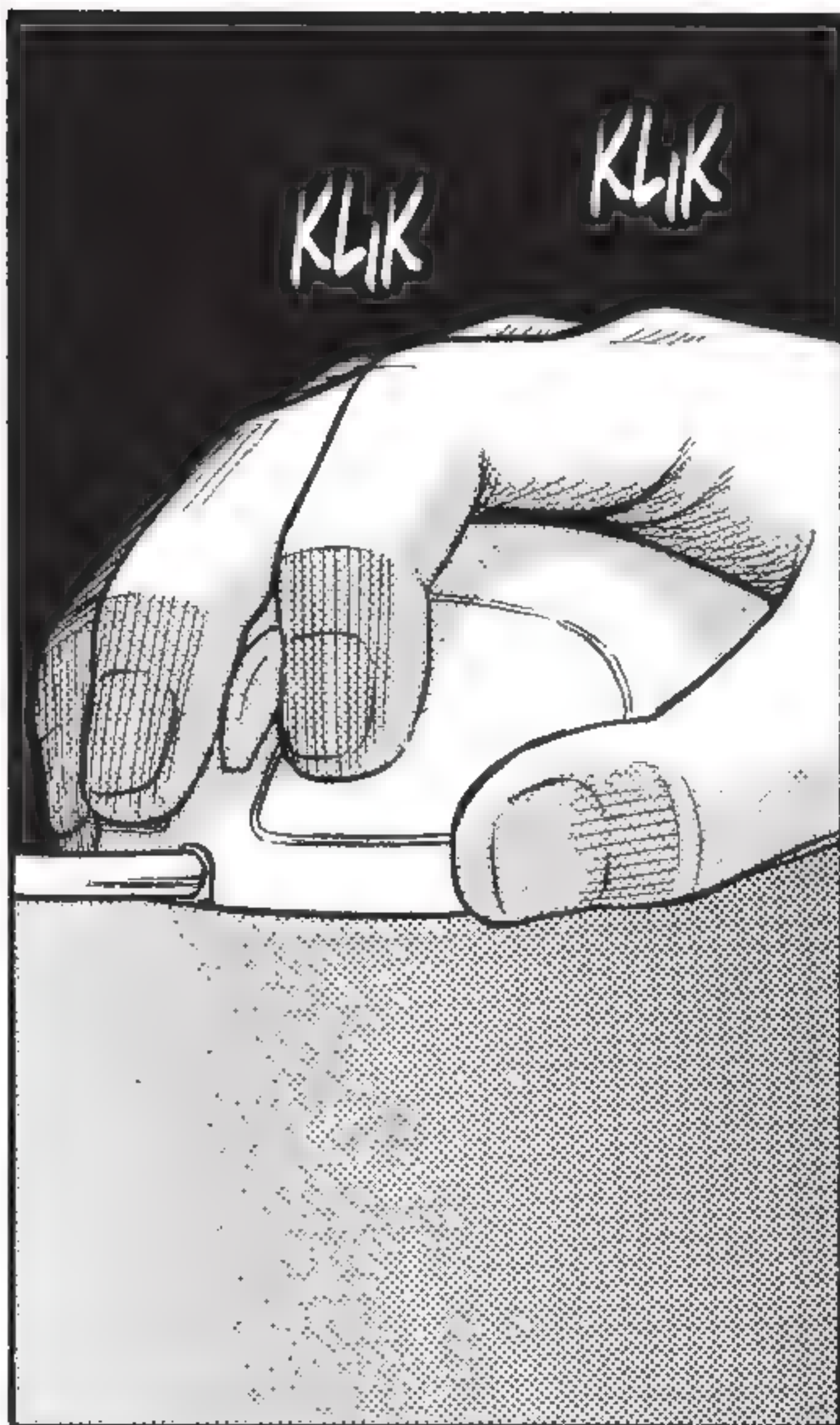
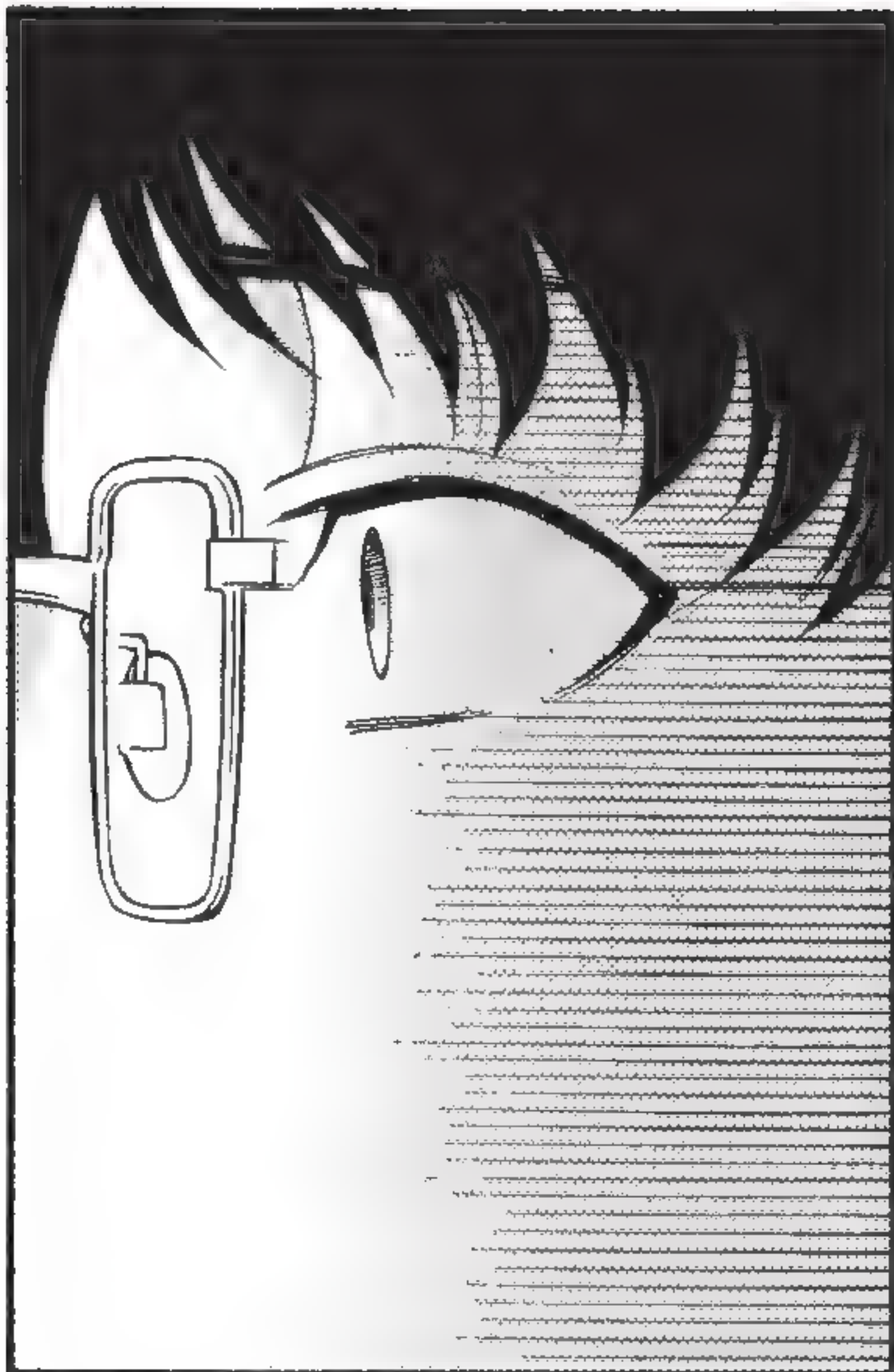
899 :NAMELESSFORTODAY: 200X/03/07(SAT) 20:51:
HEY, IS IT TRUE THAT VAMPIRES DON'T HAVE TO PAY
TAXES?

900 :NAMELESSFORTODAY: 200X/03/07(SAT) 20:
NOT ONLY THAT, THEY GET FOOD, APARTMENTS,
EVEN HEALTH CARE FOR FREE!

901 :NAMELESSFORTODAY: 200X/03/07(SAT) 2:
SERIOUSLY?! DAMN, I WANNA BE A VAMPIRE TOO!

902 :NAMELESSFORTODAY: 200X/03/07(SAT) 2:
DUDE, THAT VAMPIRE KINGDOM'S GOT THE HIGHEST
STANDARD OF LIVING IN THE ENTIRE FRIKKIN'
MODERN WORLD!





922 :NAMELESSFORTODAY: 20
HEY, DID YOU GUYS HEAR?
THEY'RE GOING TO BE
PUTTING UP SOME VAMPIRES
OVER HERE ON OUR SIDE.



FOR REAL?!

YOU'RE SHITTING ME! WHERE?!

SOMEWHERE OVER IN THAT JOINT DISTRICT. IT'S GOTTA BE!

NO WAY!

WHOA! REAL VAMPIRES! 登場!

MAN, I WANNA ASK ONE TO BITE ME.

JUST ONCE. したい。

THIS IS SO UNFAIR. THOSE BASTARDS GAVE UP THEIR HUMANITY. やつに奴らつくせ

WHY DO THEY GET TO HAVE IT SO EASY?

WE CAN'T LET THEM GET AWAY WITH KEEPING ALL THE GOOD STUFF TO THEMSELVES! いい悪いとみんな!!

DUDE, I'M SO WAITING AT THE DOOR FOR ONE TO COME OUT.

YOU WANNA GO? SHOULD WE ALL GO?

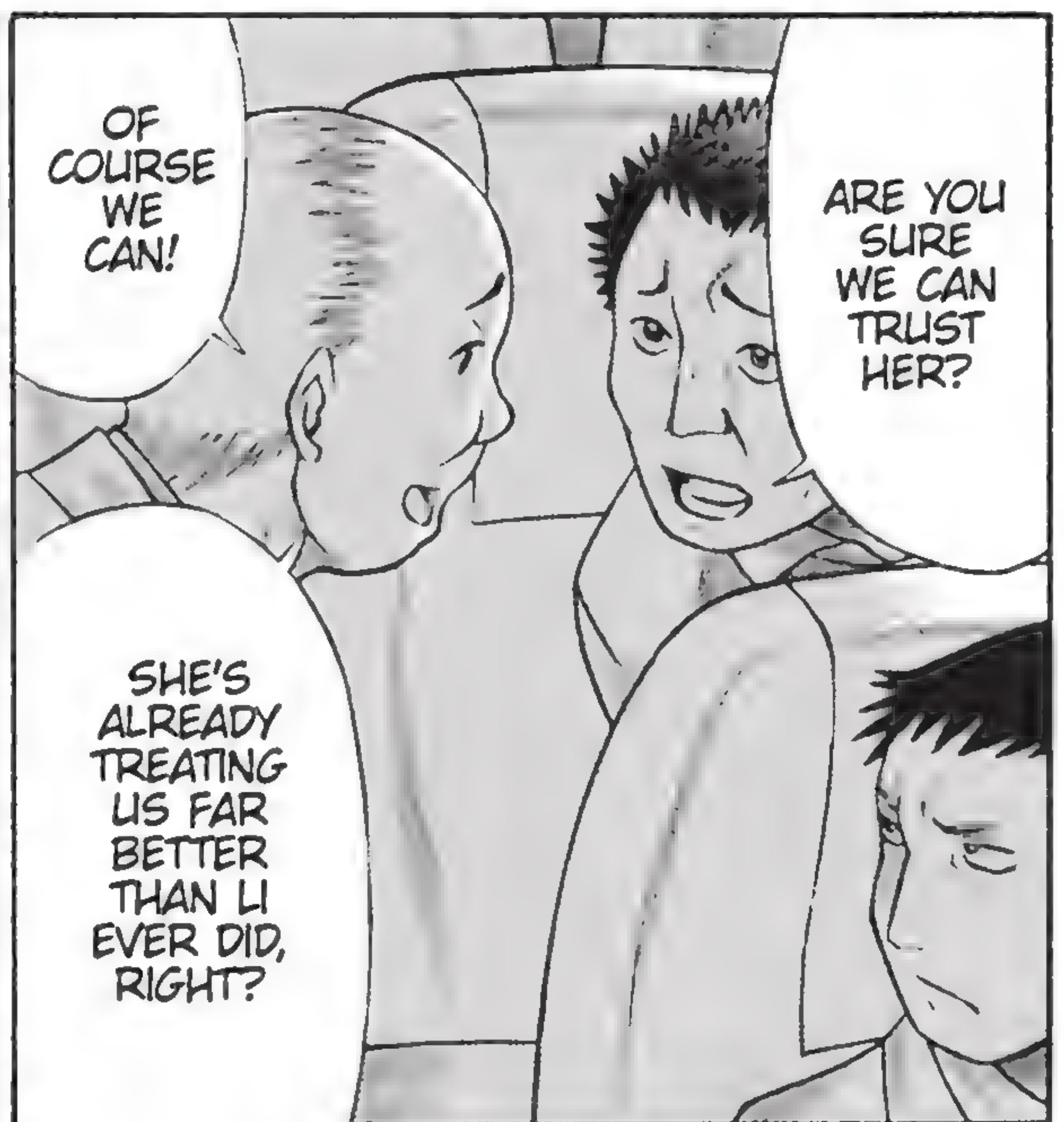
SOMEBODY MAKE ME INTO A VAMPIRE. くれ

I WANNA GO LIVE IN THE BUND TOO. たい。

I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE. WHO GIVES A DAMN ABOUT STAYING HUMAN? いやめてえ。

WHOA! TAKE A LOOK AT THIS THREAD.

IT'S GOT OVER 1000 RESPONSES. た



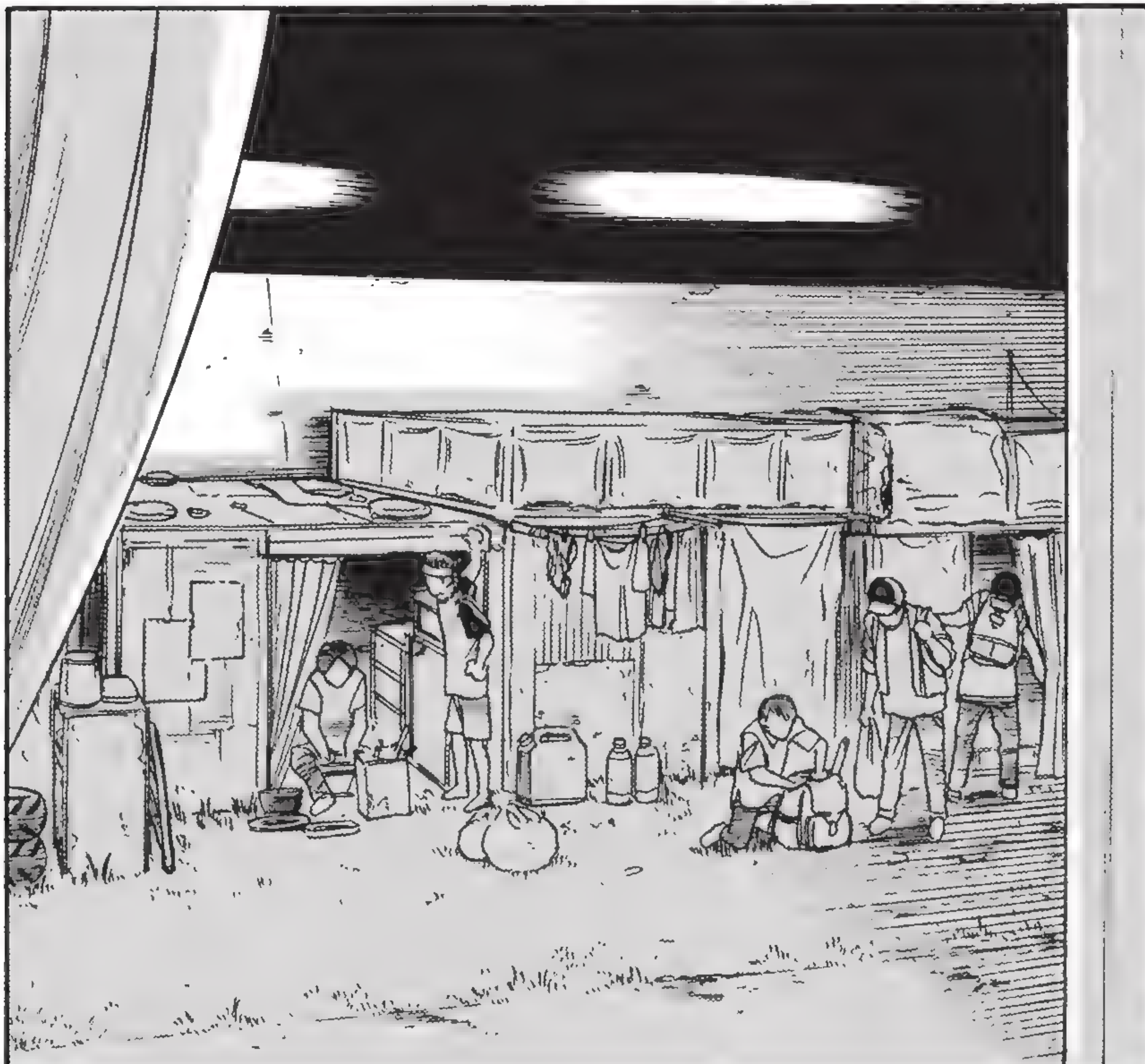
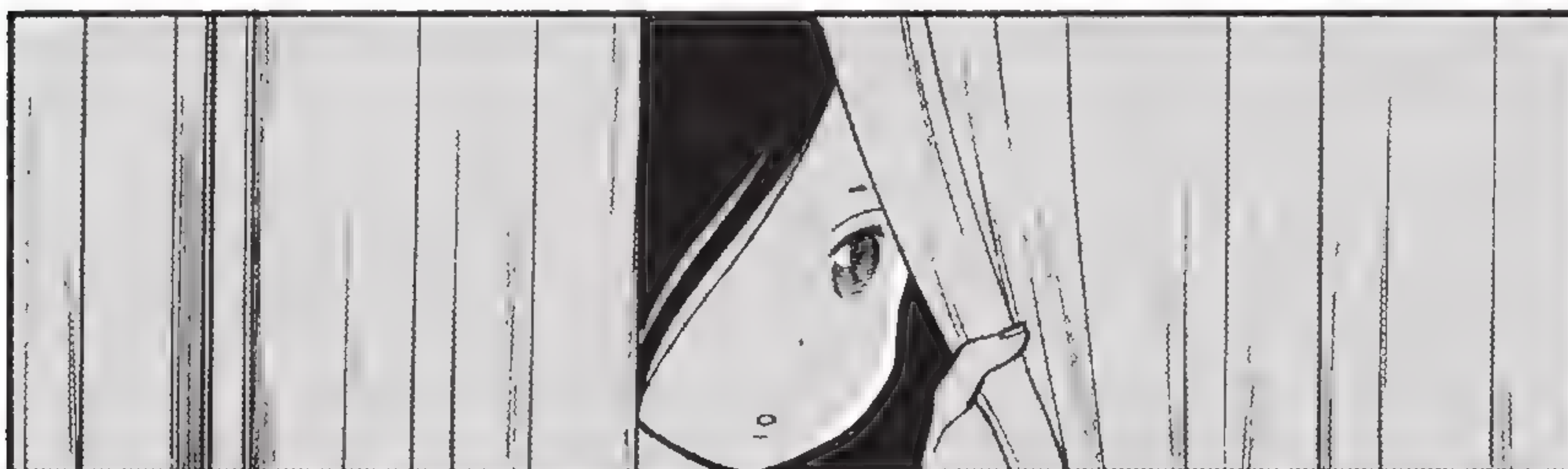


I
WANNA
SEE
HER.

WHEN IS
TATIANNA-
ONEESAN
COMING
BACK?

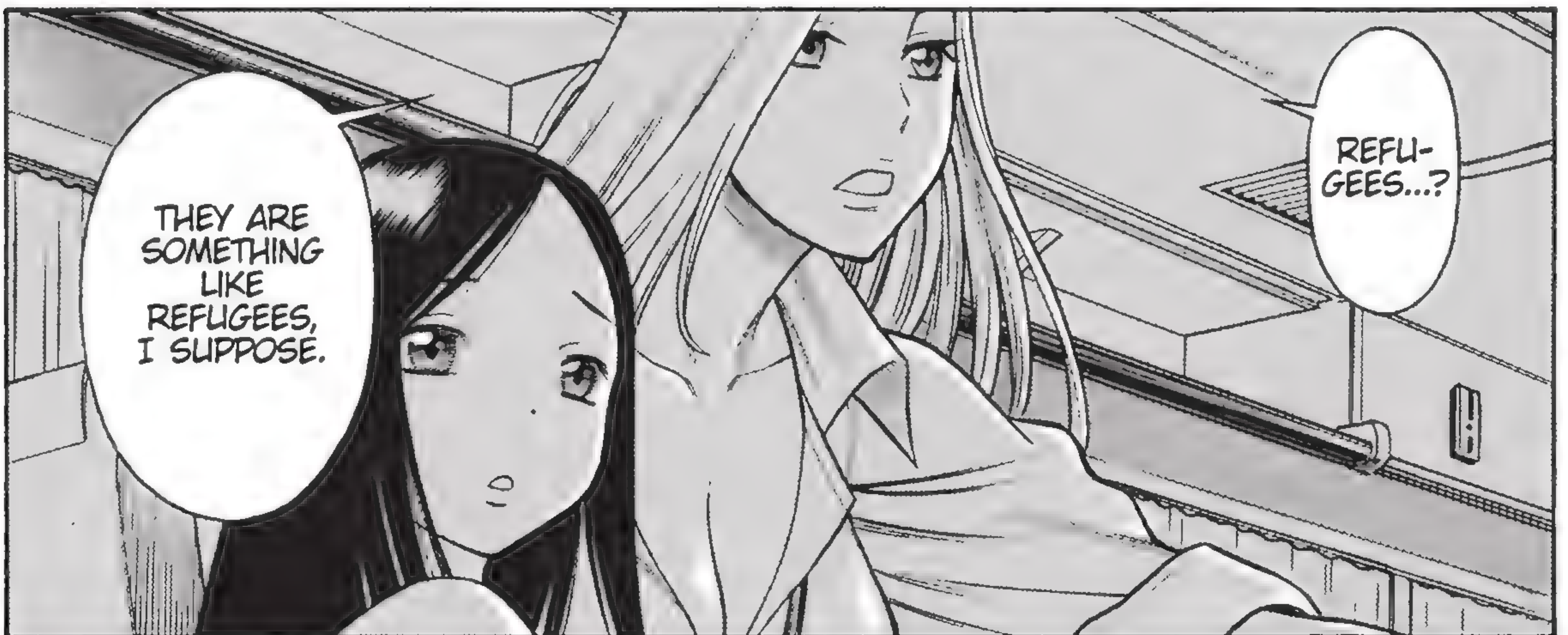
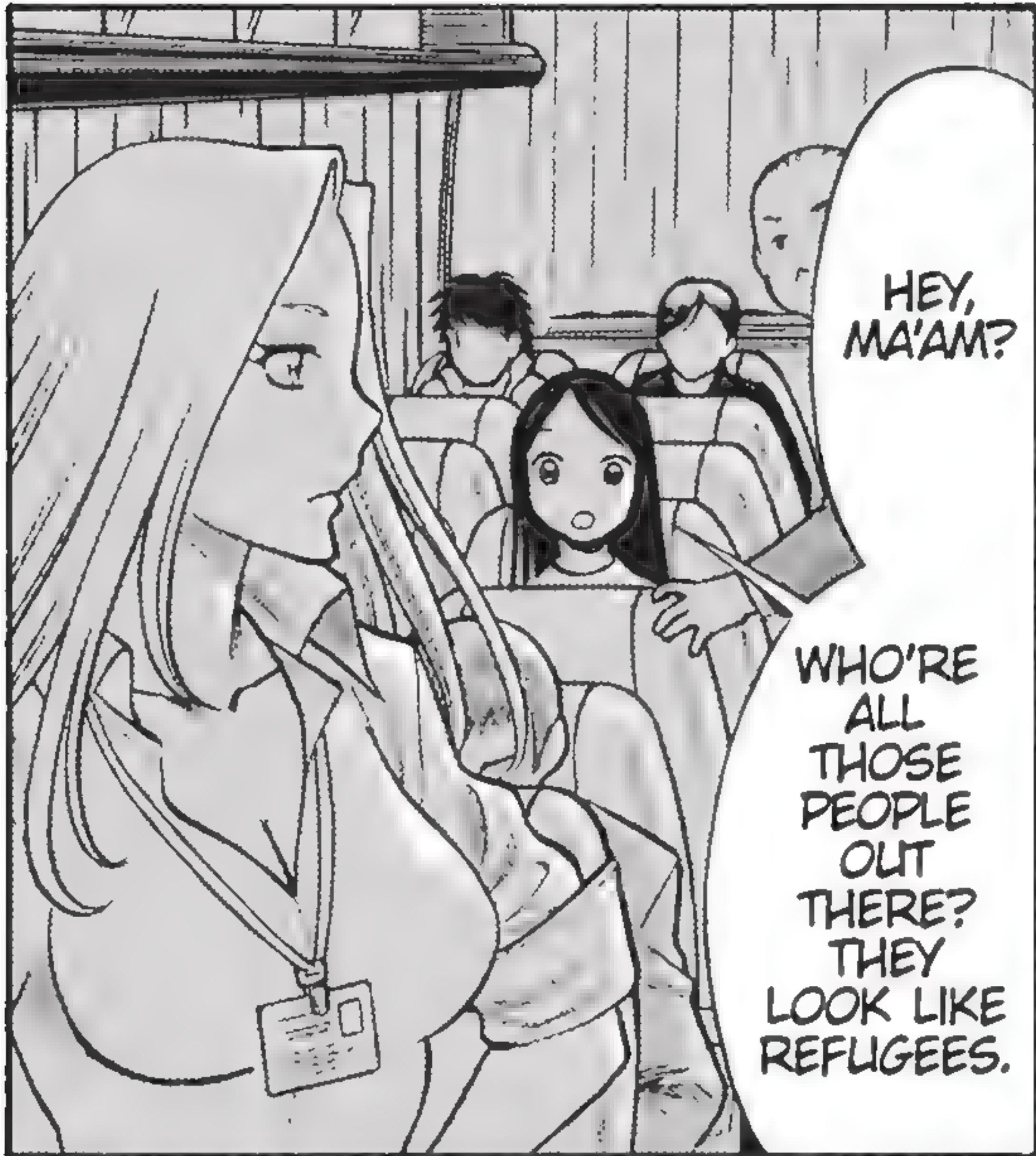


WHAT'S
THE
MATTER,
MINMEI?
YOU
LOOK
SAD.



TATIANNA
IS DOING
HER DUTY
AS BEST
SHE CAN
RIGHT
NOW.

HANG ON
JUST A
LITTLE
LONGER.
I'M SURE
SHE'LL
COME BACK
SOON.



WHAT
ARE THEY
RUNNING
AWAY
FROM?



Chapter 47: Gills

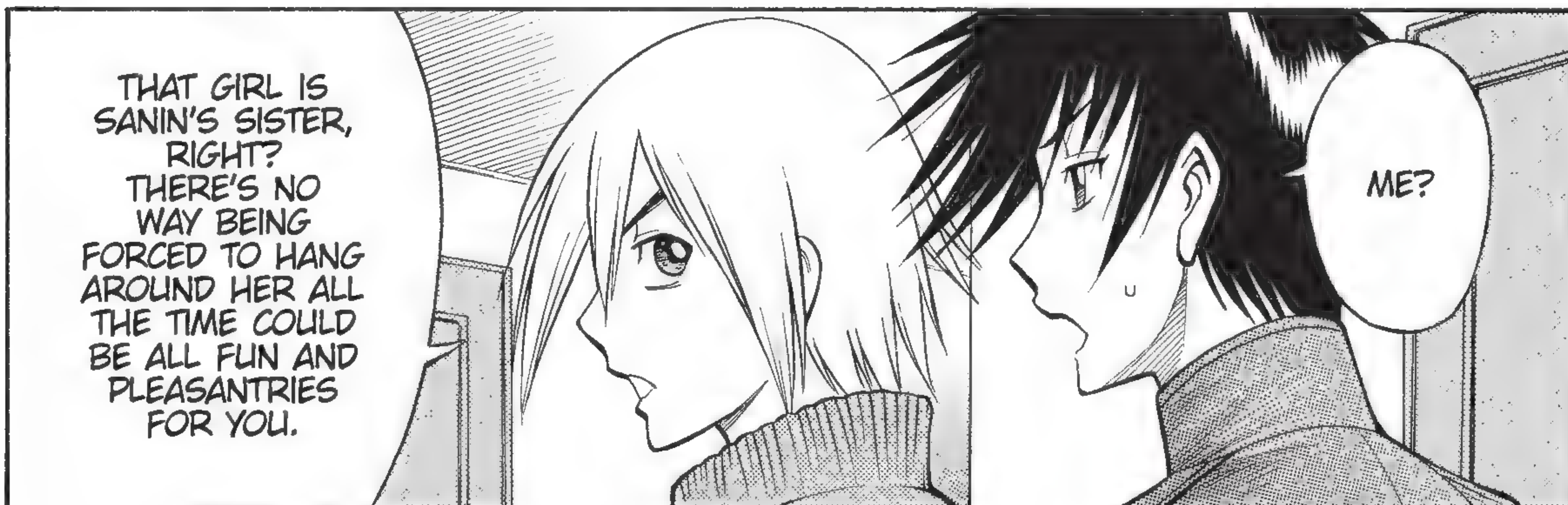


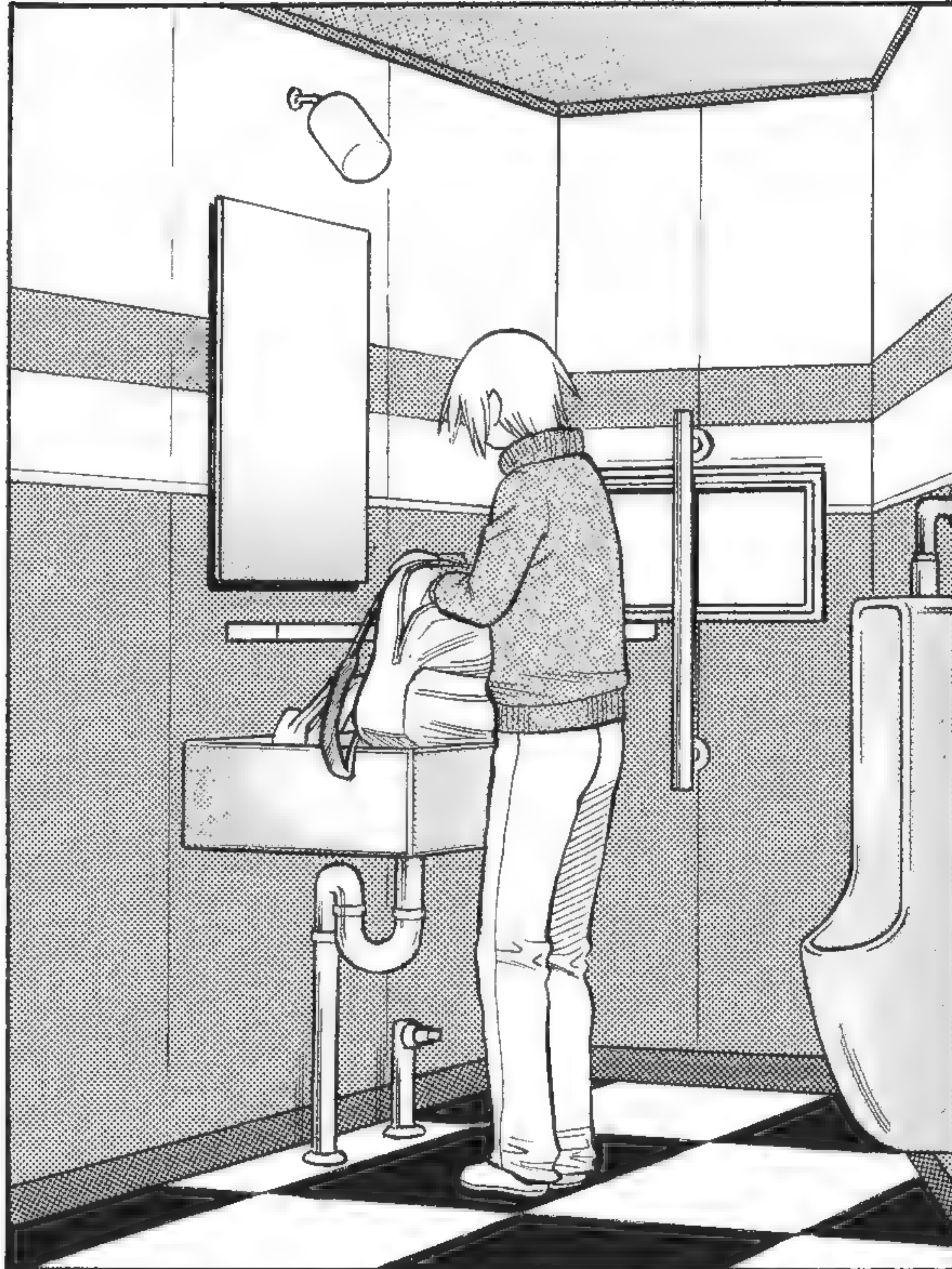
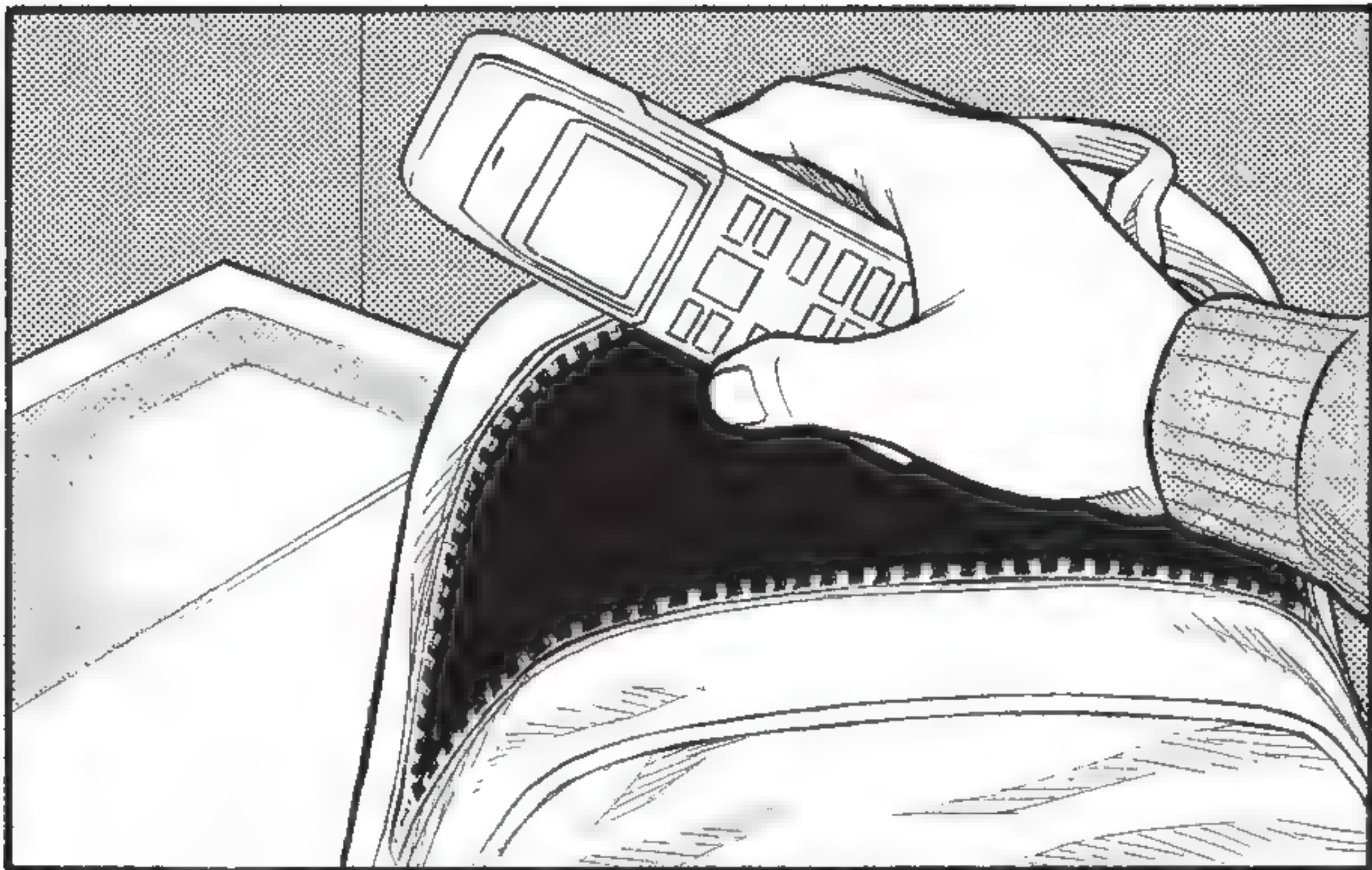
I'M
COMING
IN,
HIME-
SAN.

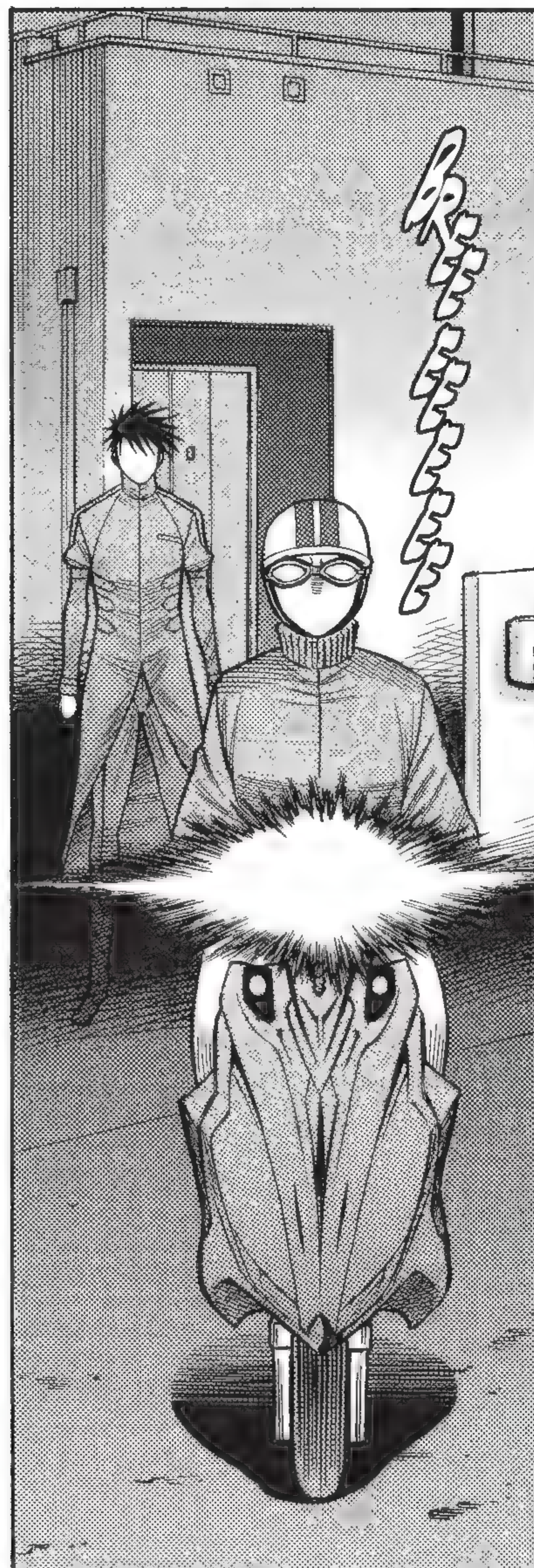


HM?
WHAT IS
WRONG,
AKIRA?

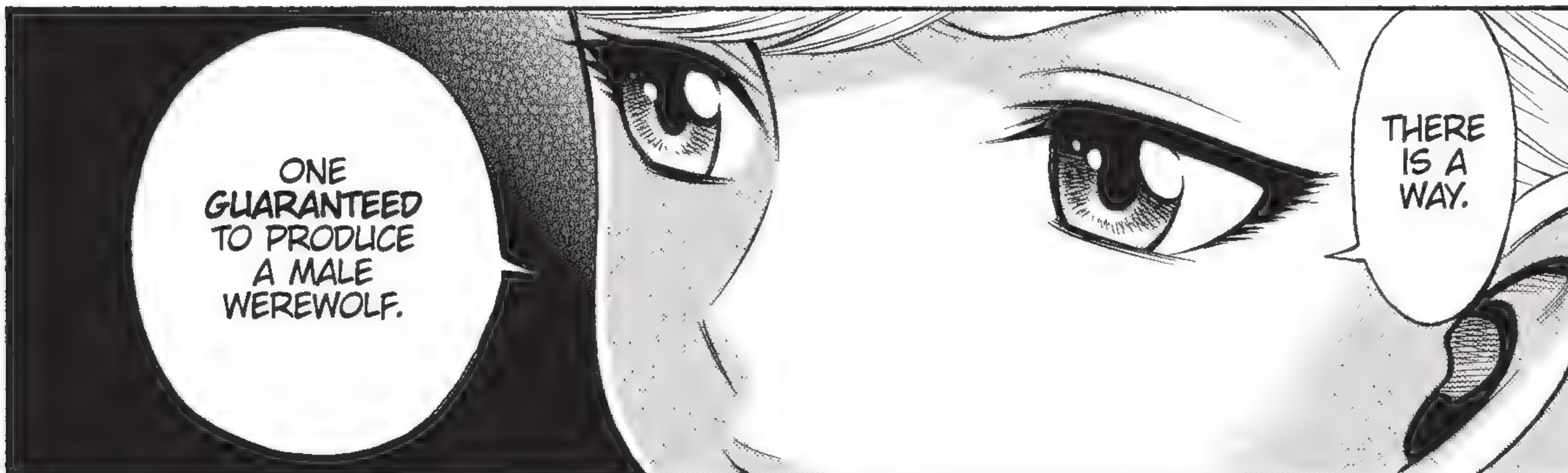
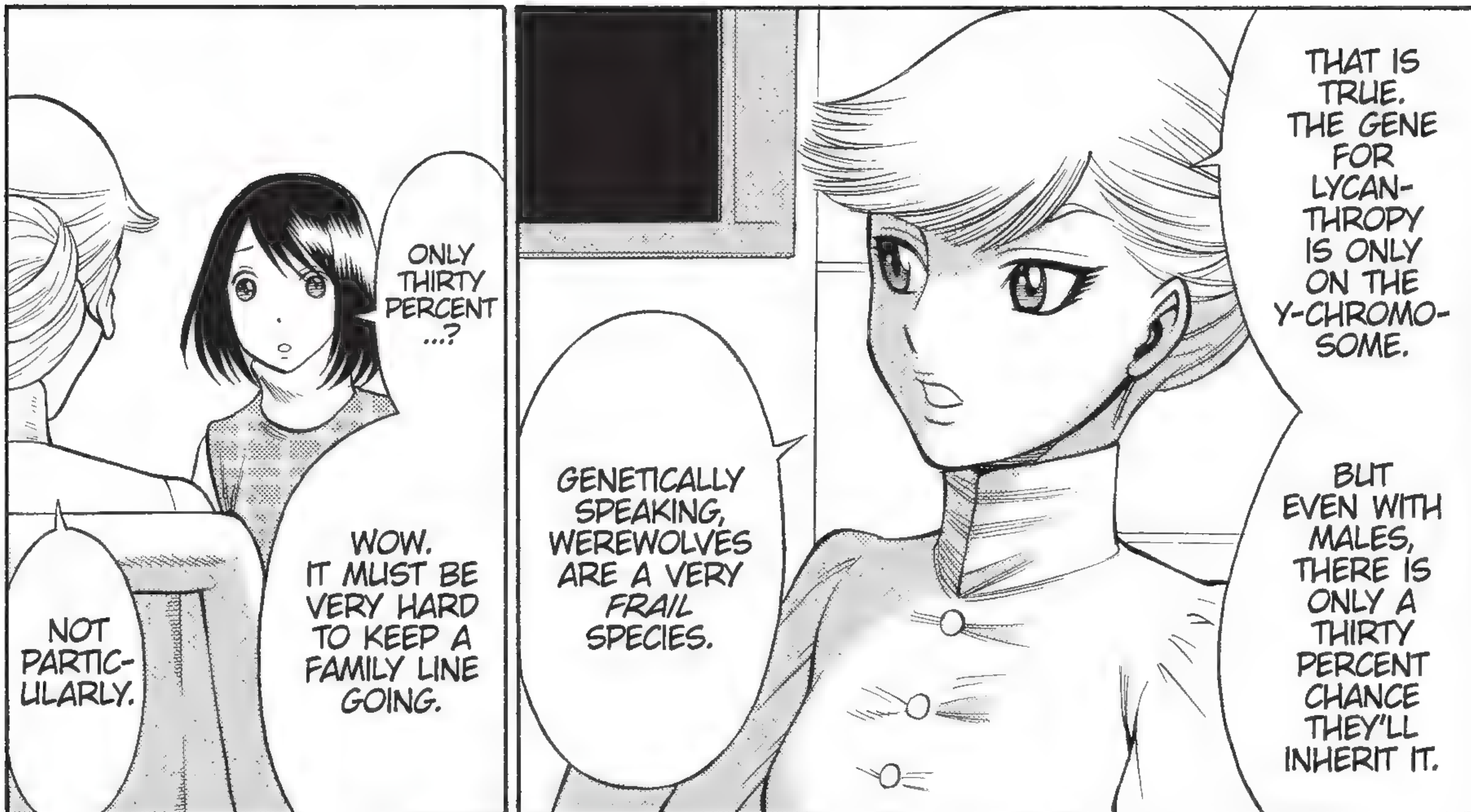














OF COURSE.

THAT KINDNESS
TURNS
NEARLY INTO
WORSHIP
IN THE CASE
OF THEIR
WIVES AND
LOVERS.

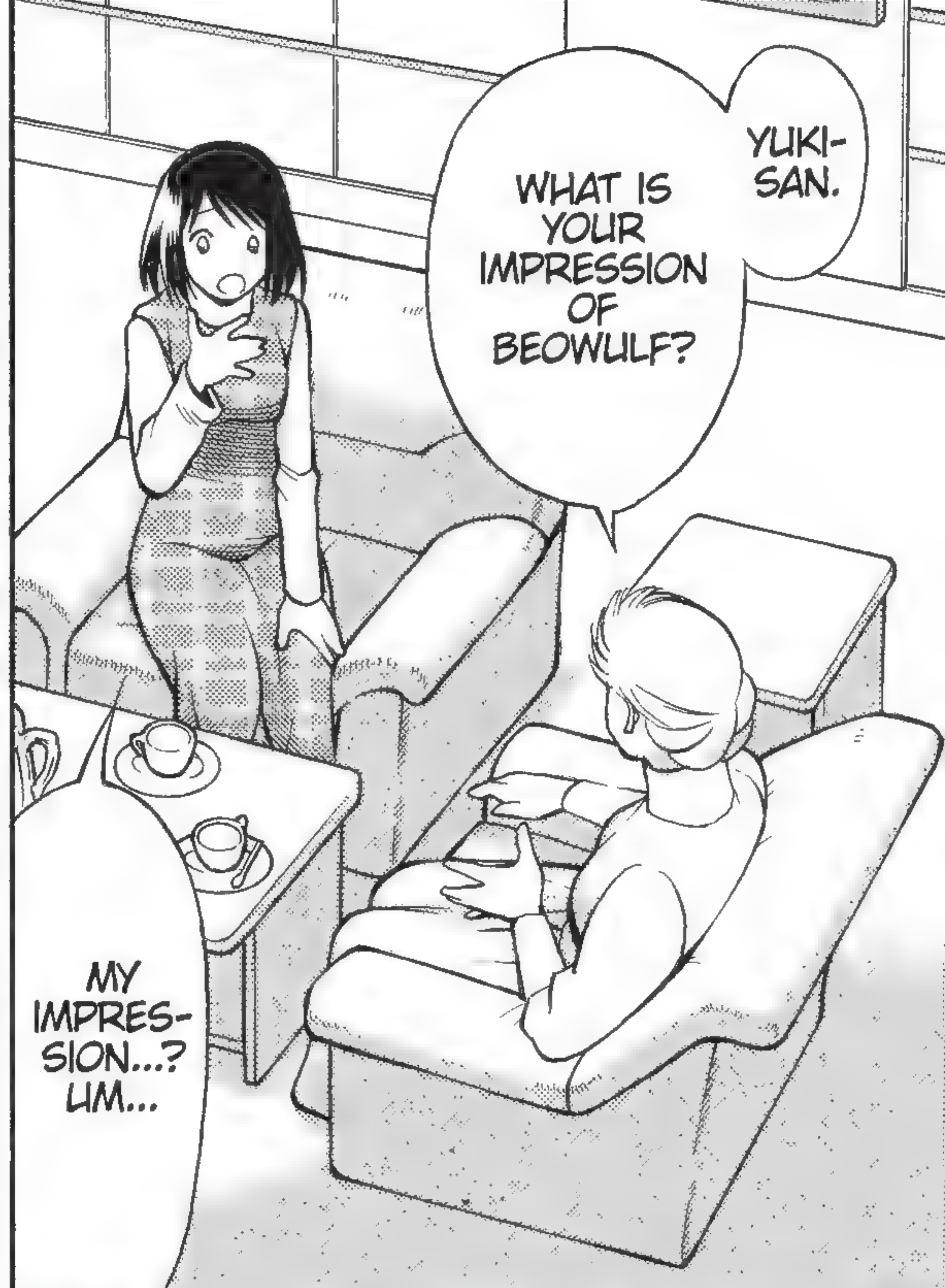
ALL WERE-
WOLVES
ARE EXCEP-
TIONALLY
KIND TO
WOMEN.



IT'S
ONLY
NA-
TURAL.

BEARING A
WEREWOLF'S
CHILD WILL
DESTROY THE
MOTHER'S
LIFE IN ANY
ONE OF A
NUMBER
OF WAYS,
AFTER ALL.

AND
SO
VERY,
VERY
NICE.



YUKI-
SAN.

WHAT IS
YOUR
IMPRESSION
OF
BEOWULF?

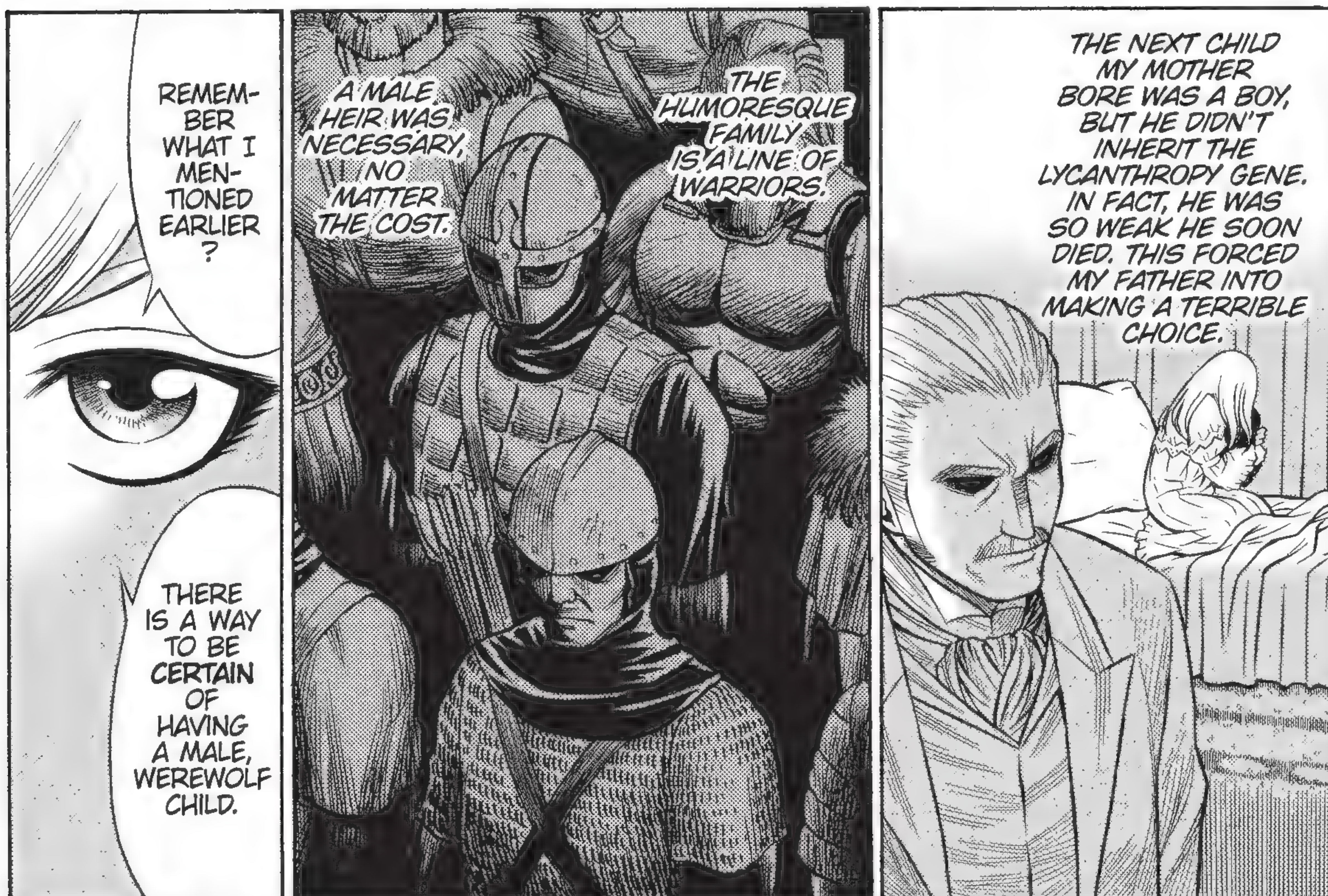
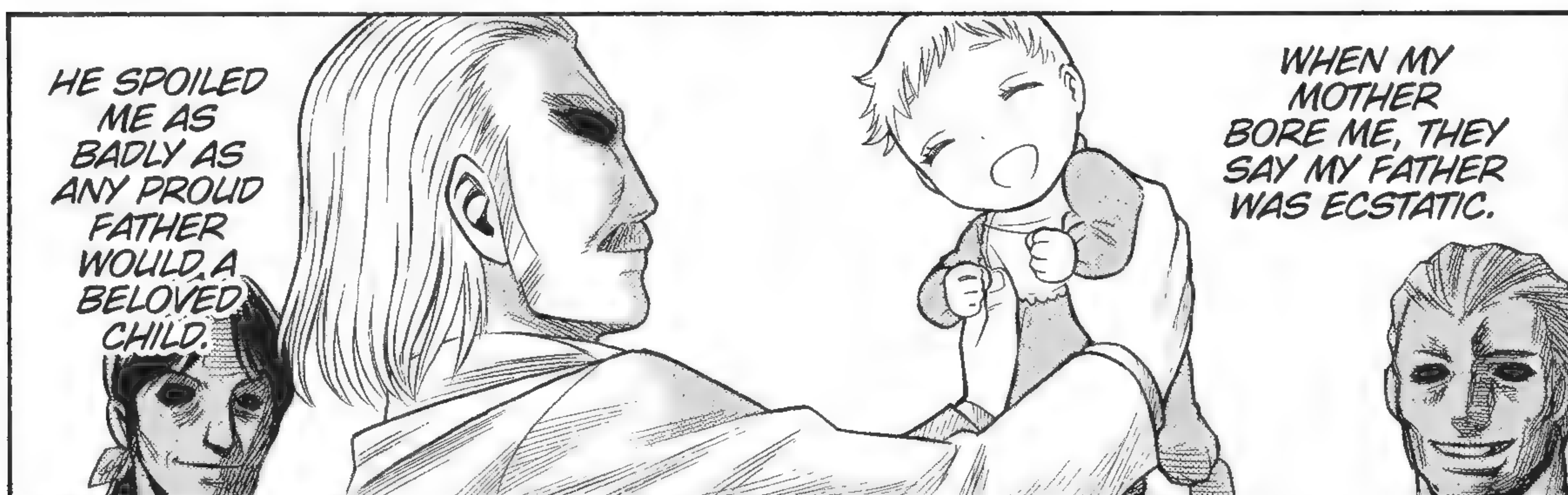
MY
IMPRES-
SION...?
UM...

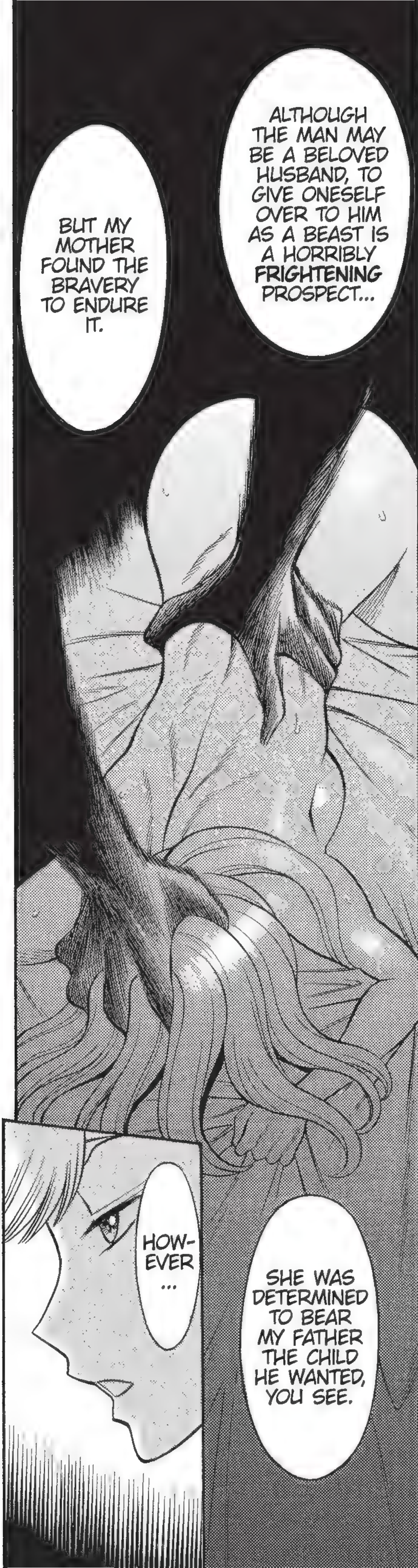


WELL,
THEY'RE
COMPLETELY
DIFFERENT
FROM
WHAT I
EXPECTED...

THEY'RE
PERFECT
GENTLE-
MEN...

THEY'RE
ALL SO
HONORABLE
AND
REFINED.






BUT MY
MOTHER
FOUND THE
BRAVERY
TO ENDURE
IT.

ALTHOUGH
THE MAN MAY
BE A BELOVED
HUSBAND, TO
GIVE ONESELF
OVER TO HIM
AS A BEAST IS
A HORRIBLY
FRIGHTENING
PROSPECT...



HOW-
EVER
...

SHE WAS
DETERMINED
TO BEAR
MY FATHER
THE CHILD
HE WANTED,
YOU SEE.



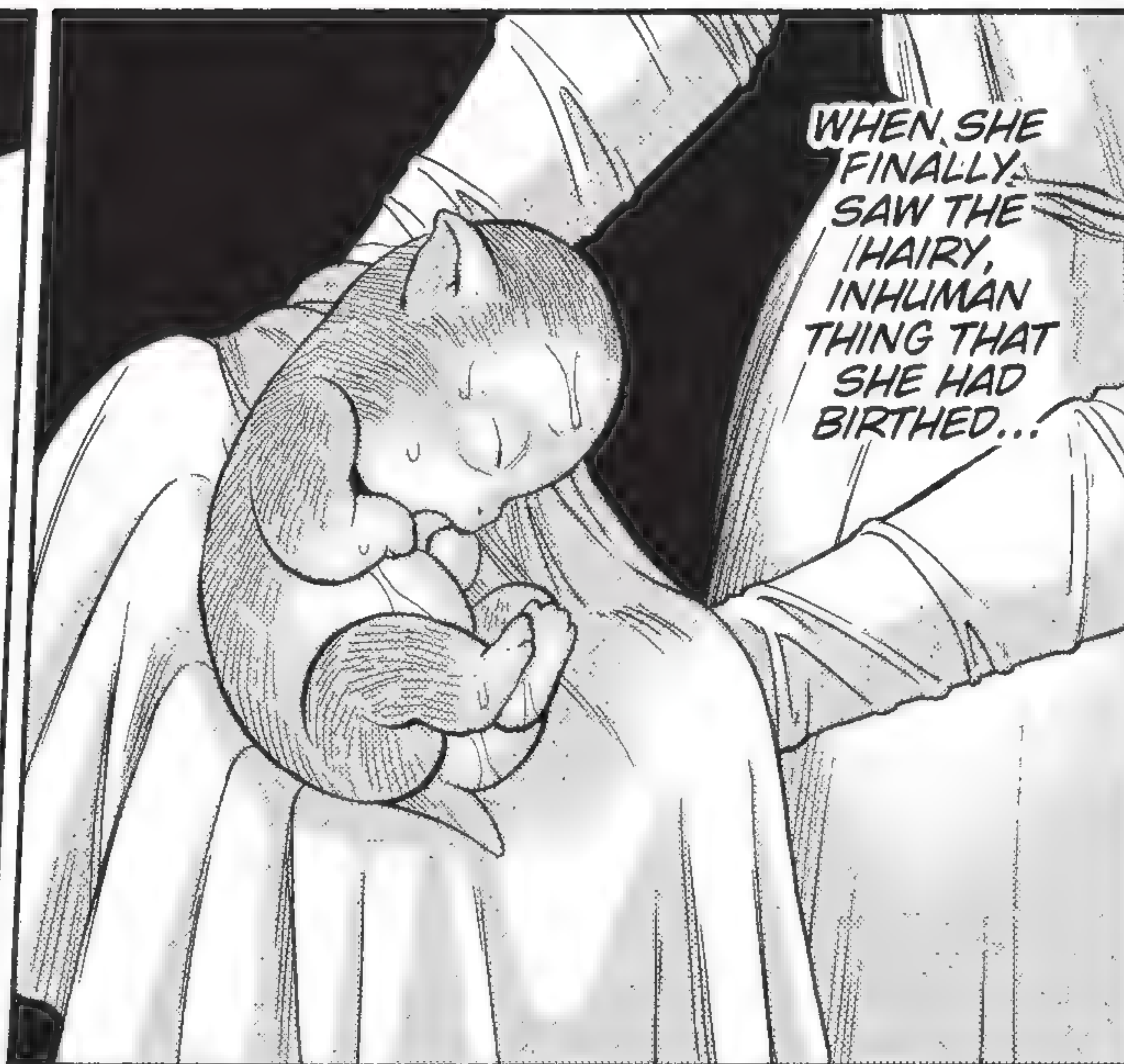
JUST
COPLULATE
WITH A
WOMAN
WHILE IN
WEREWOLF
FORM.



IT'S
REALLY
QUITE
SIMPLE.



HER MIND
COULDN'T
TAKE IT.
SHE
WENT
INSANE.



WHEN SHE
FINALLY
SAW THE
HAIRY,
INHUMAN
THING THAT
SHE HAD
BIRTHED...



BAD
BOY,
HIDING
FROM
ME.

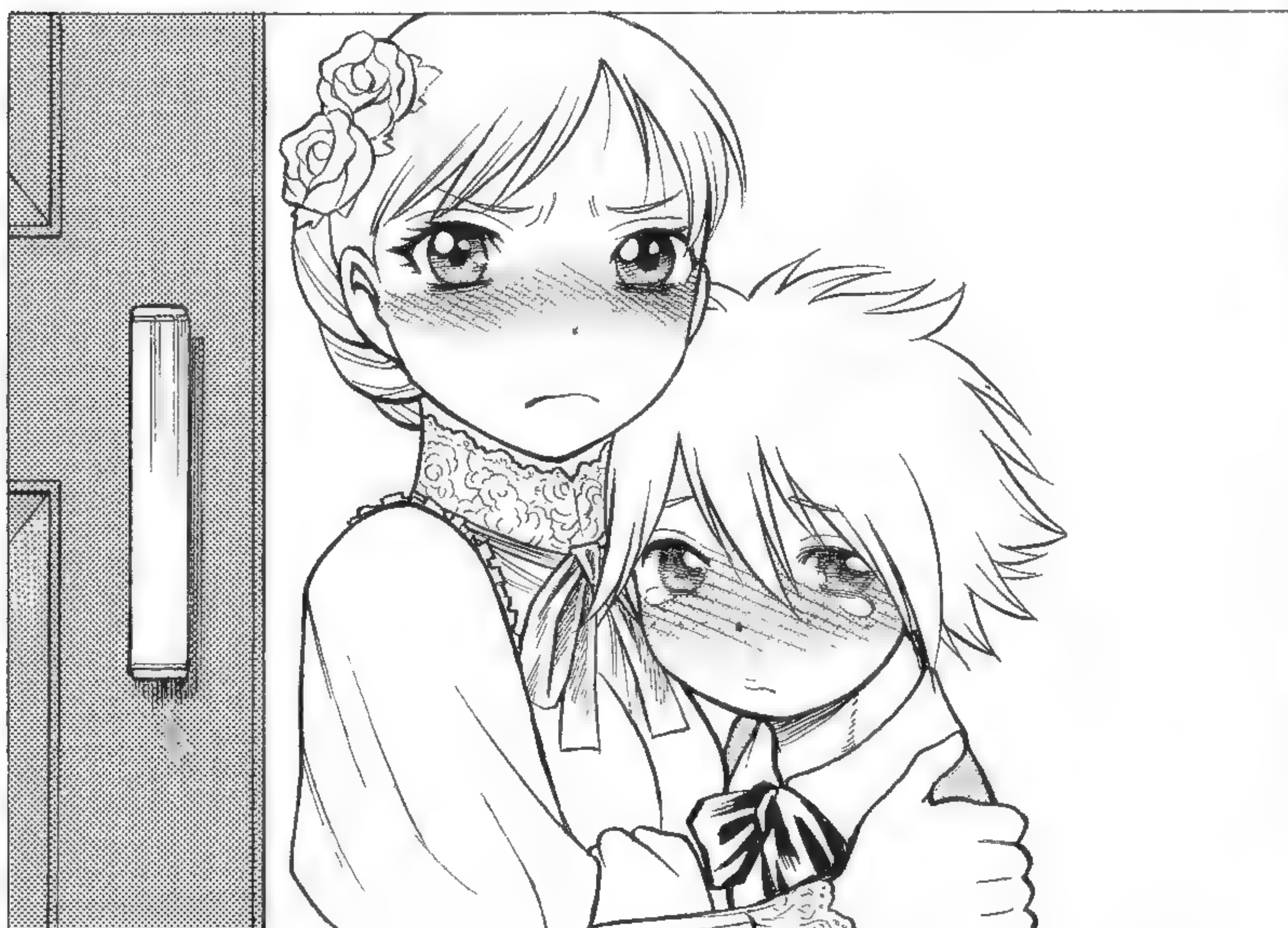


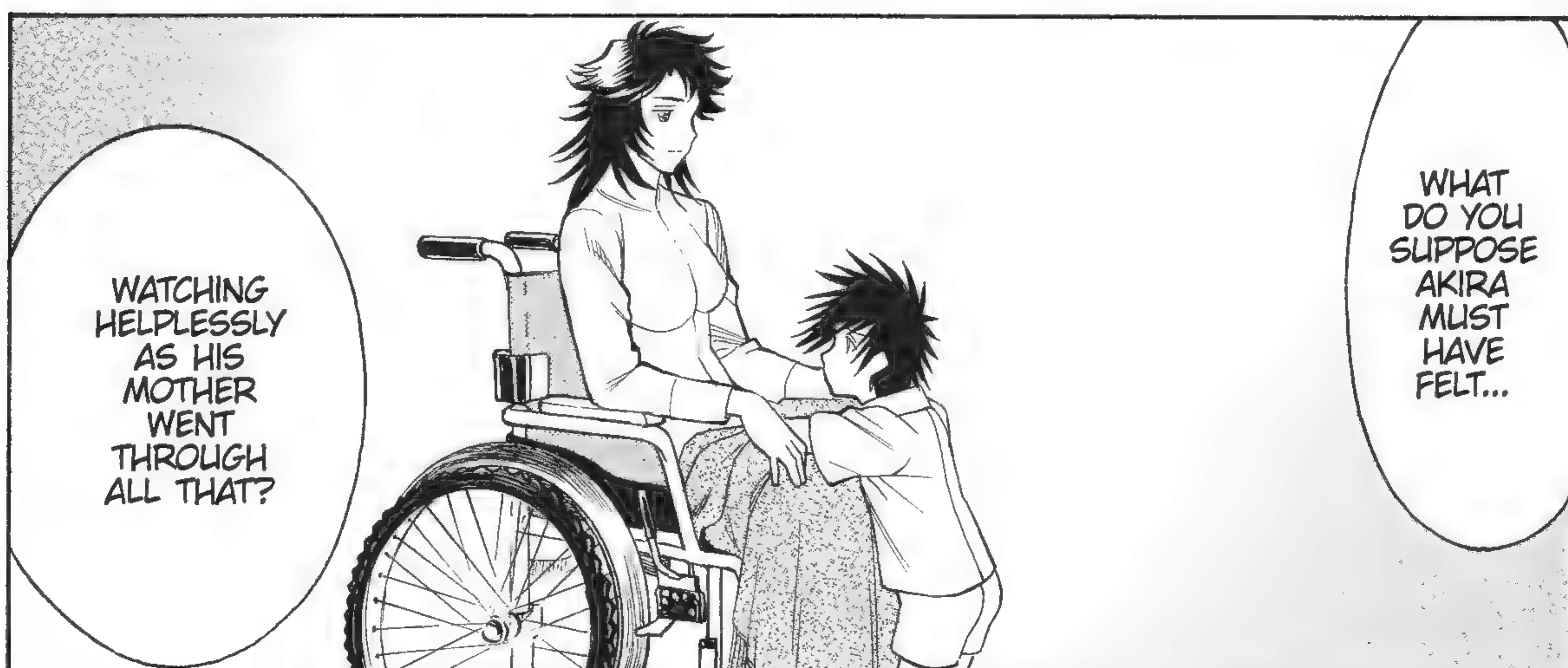
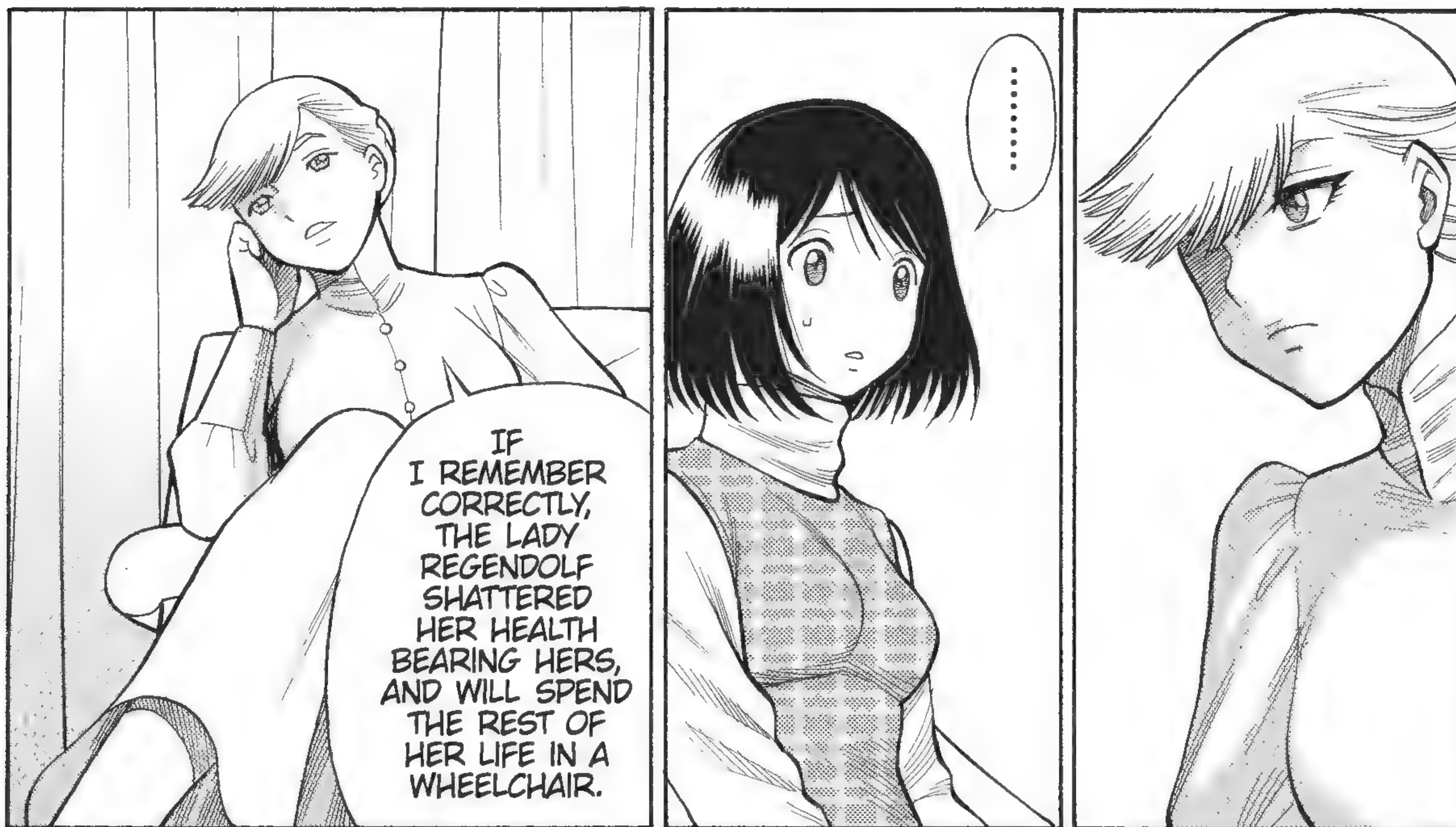
OH,
THERE
YOU
ARE.

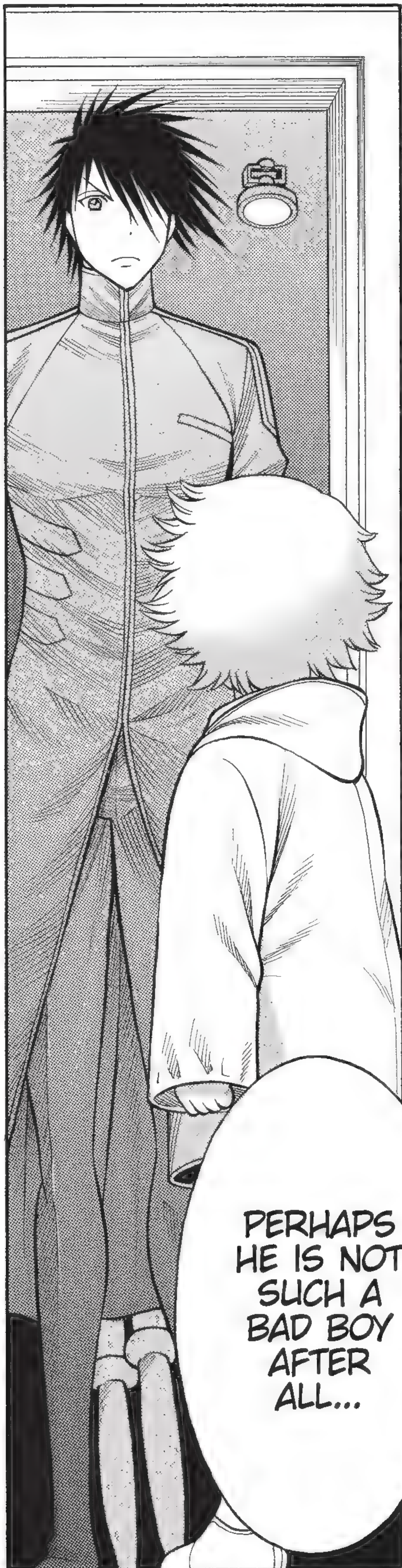


SANIN,
WHERE
ARE
YOU?
WHERE
IS MY
BOY?

SANIN
...?







THIS
IS
WHY.

YOU
WONDERED
WHY I
COULDN'T
RETURN
YOUR
FEELINGS.



PERHAPS
HE IS NOT
SUCH A
BAD BOY
AFTER
ALL...

HE IS
MORE
CONSIDERATE
THAN I
THOUGHT...



DID HE
THINK
HE MUST
KEEP
EVERYONE
AT A
DISTANCE?

THAT IT
WOULD BE
BETTER,
SAFER,
IF NO ONE
EVER
GOT TOO
CLOSE?



HEY!
LISTEN
WHEN
I--!!

ONII-
CHAMA!!



DO YOU
WANT TO
LEAVE
HER ALL
BY
HERSELF?



GO
HOME,
YULHI.
GO
BACK
TO
MOM.



YULHI!

THAT'S
WHY
YOU'RE
BEING
SO
MEAN.
YOU
HATE
ME!

YOU
DO!!

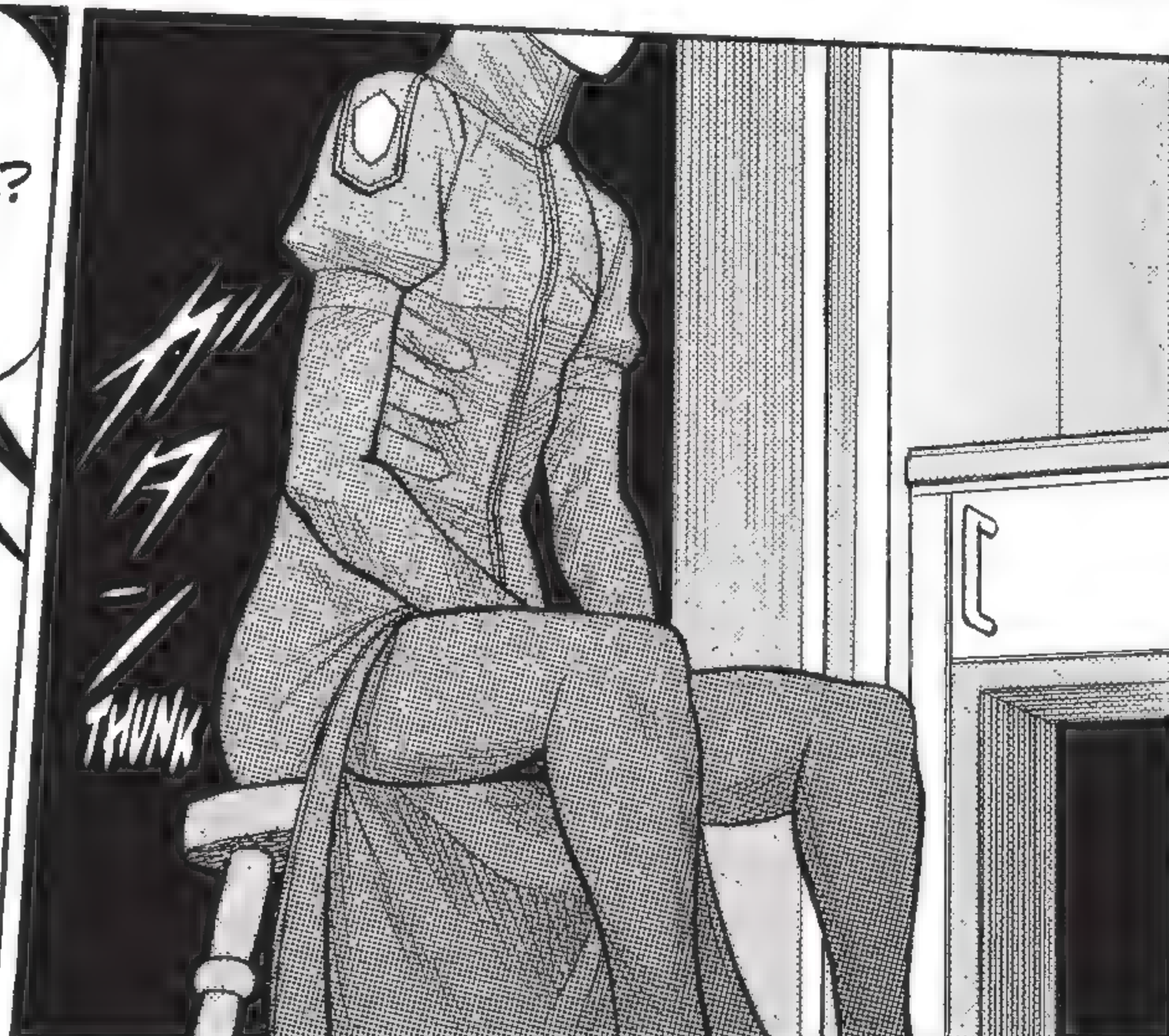


AND
NOW I
FINALLY
GOT
TO SEE
YOU...

I
MISSED
YOU
LOTS
AND
LOTS!



YOU
HATE
ME
NOW,
DON'T
YOU...?

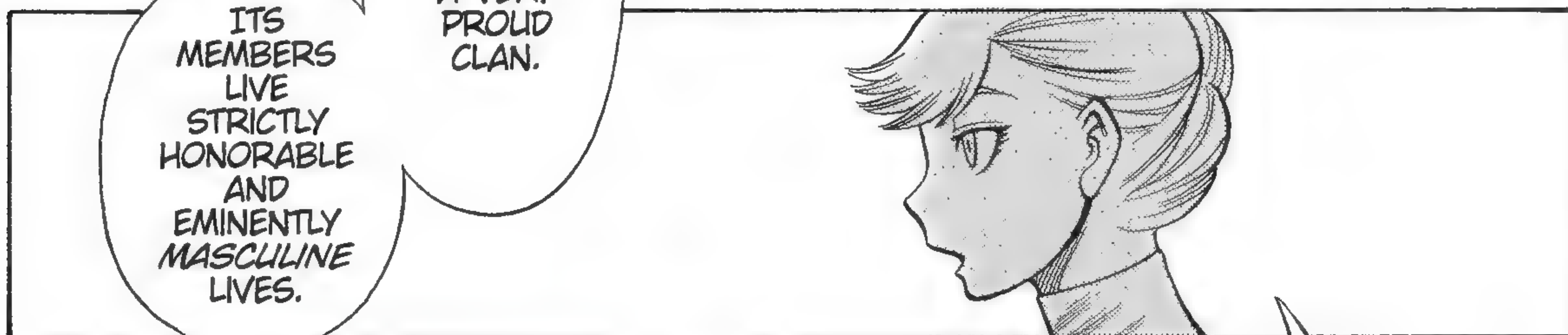




HOW
COME
NOBODY
UNDER-
STANDS
...?

THE
EARTH
CLAN IS
A VERY
PROUD
CLAN.

ITS
MEMBERS
LIVE
STRICTLY
HONORABLE
AND
EMINENTLY
MASCULINE
LIVES.

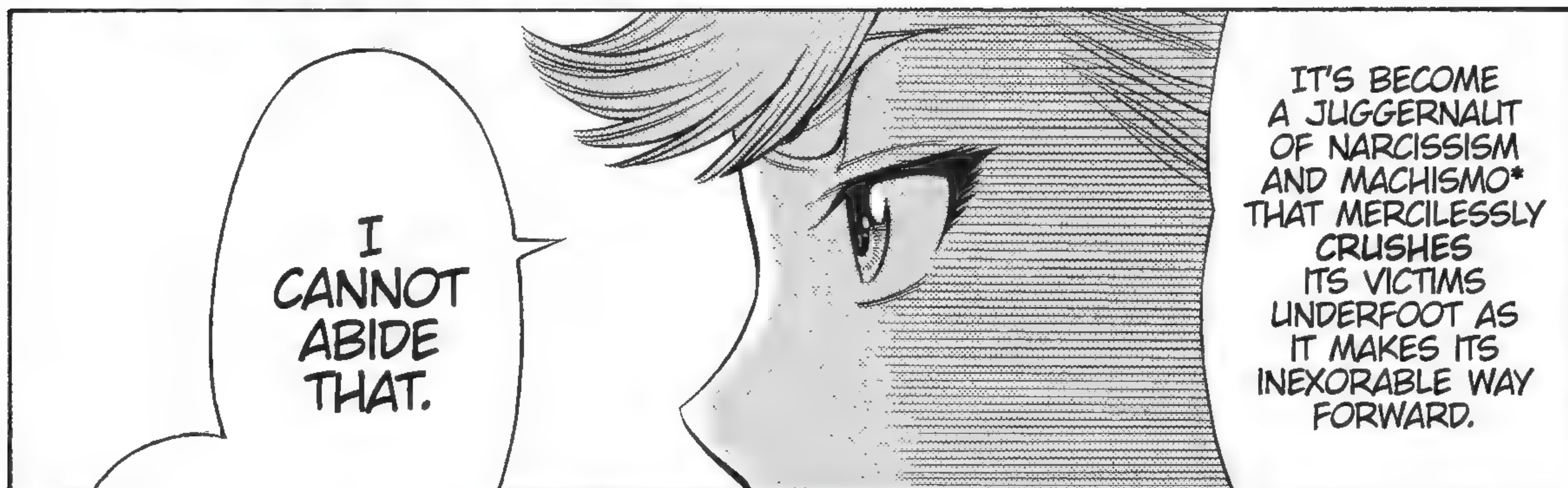


EVEN
MINE.

AKIRA'S
LIFE.

SANIN'S
LIFE.

BUT SUCH
EXCESSIVE
PRIDE
DEMANDS
SACRIFICES.



I
CANNOT
ABIDE
THAT.

IT'S BECOME
A JUGGERNAUT
OF NARCISSISM
AND MACHISMO*
THAT MERCILESSLY
CRUSHES
ITS VICTIMS
UNDERFOOT AS
IT MAKES ITS
INEXORABLE WAY
FORWARD.

*Machismo = excessive pride in being male.

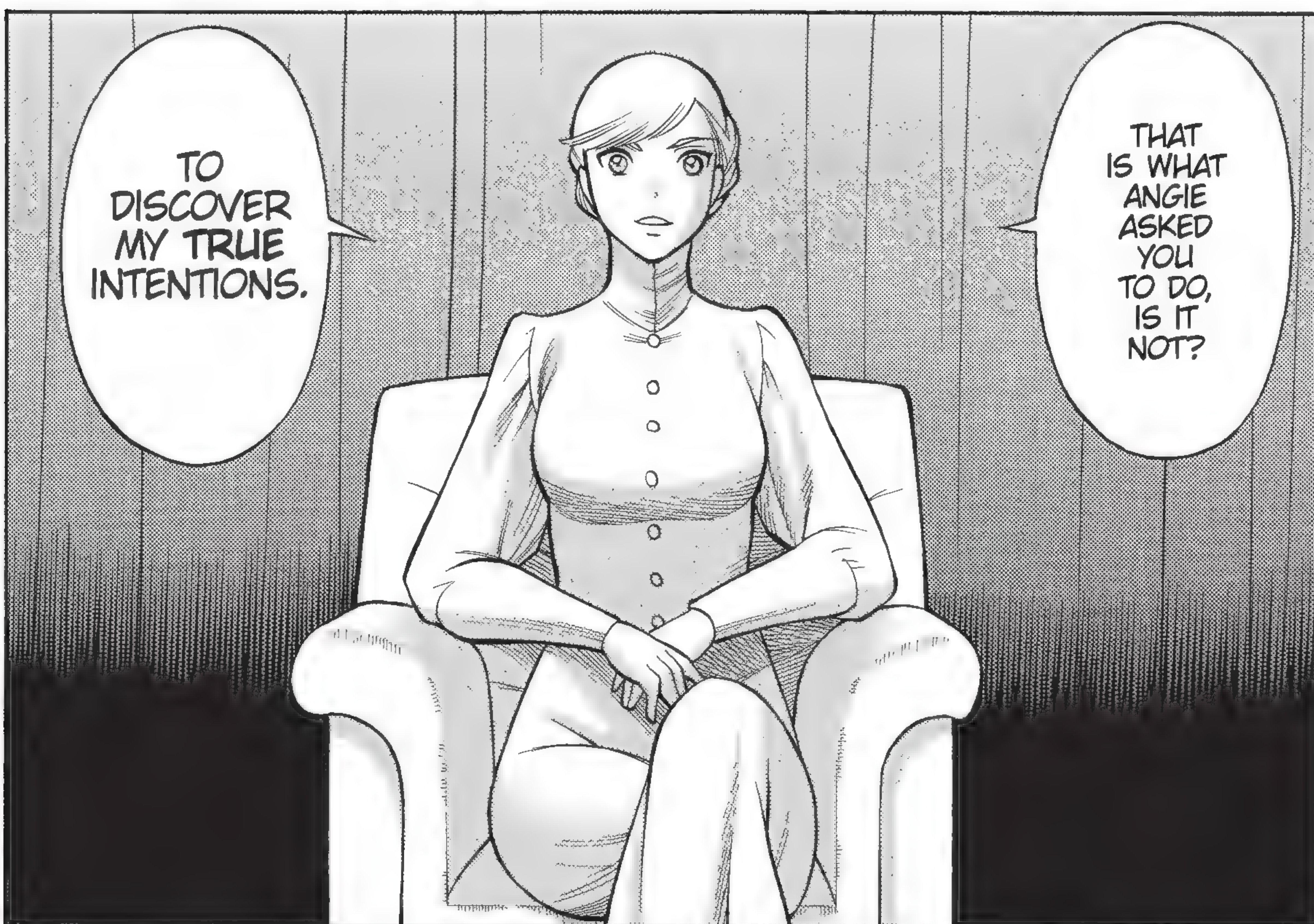


IN FACT,
I'VE
COME TO
HATE
IT WITH
EVERY
FIBER
OF MY
BEING!!



THOSE
ARE THE
WORDS
YOU HAVE
BEEN
WAITING
TO HEAR,
YES?

WELL
...?



TO
DISCOVER
MY TRUE
INTENTIONS.

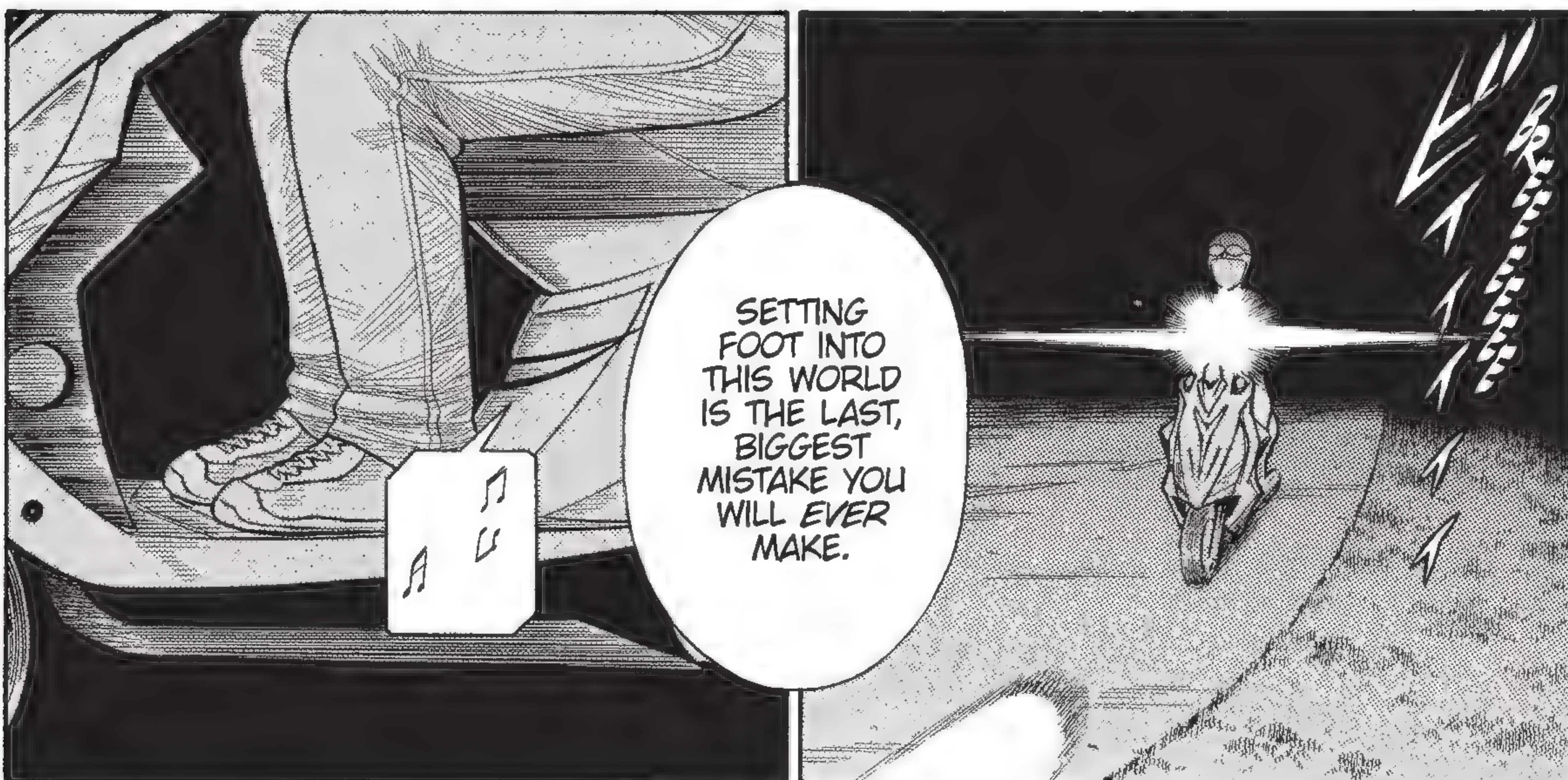
THAT
IS WHAT
ANGIE
ASKED
YOU
TO DO,
IS IT
NOT?

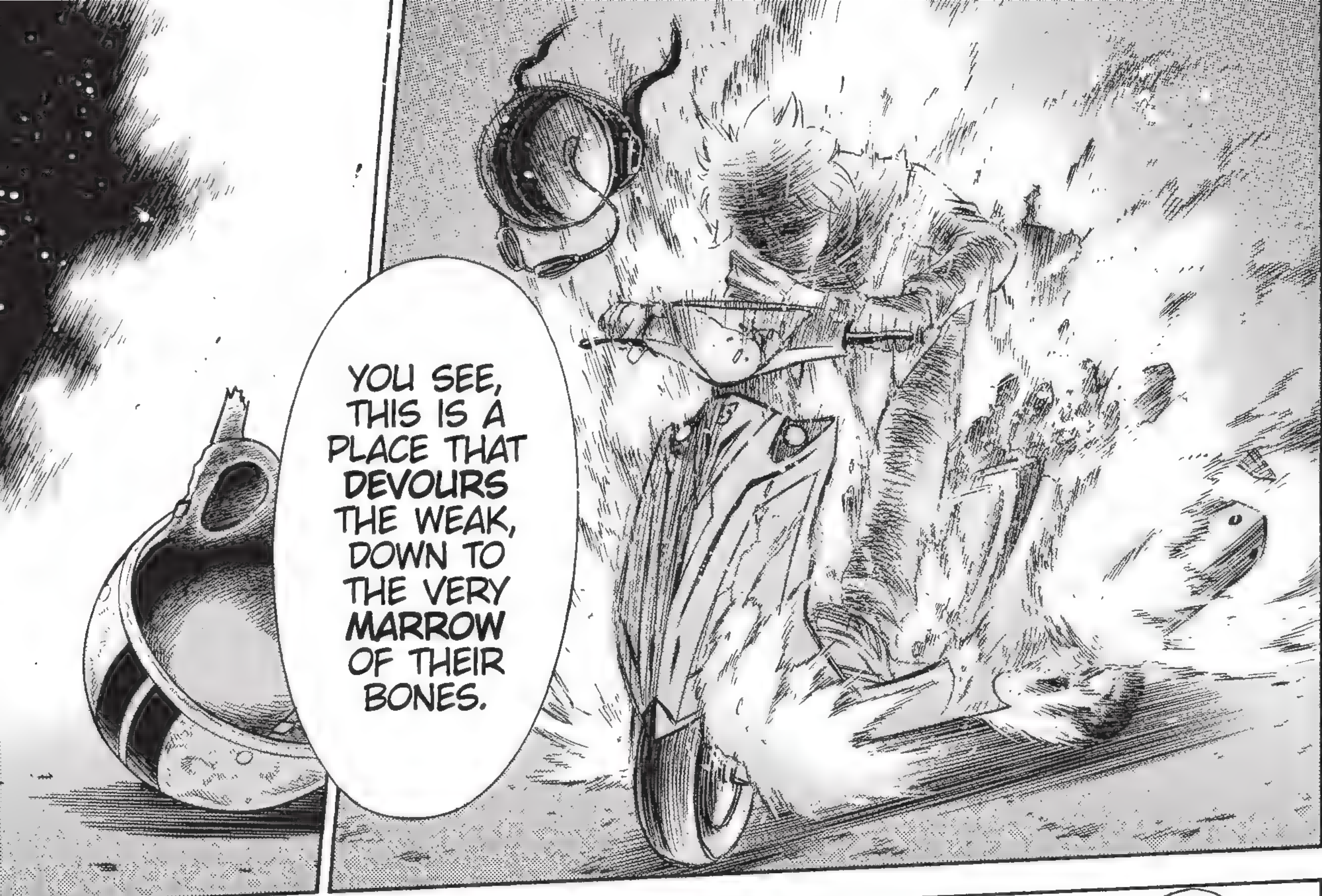


WHAT A
TERRIBLY
ROUND-
ABOUT
METHOD.

THAT
WILL BE
520
YEN.

HE WAS
THINKING
I WOULD
LOOSEN MY
TONGUE
BECAUSE YOU
ARE AN
"UNINVOLVED
THIRD PARTY,"
I ASSUME.

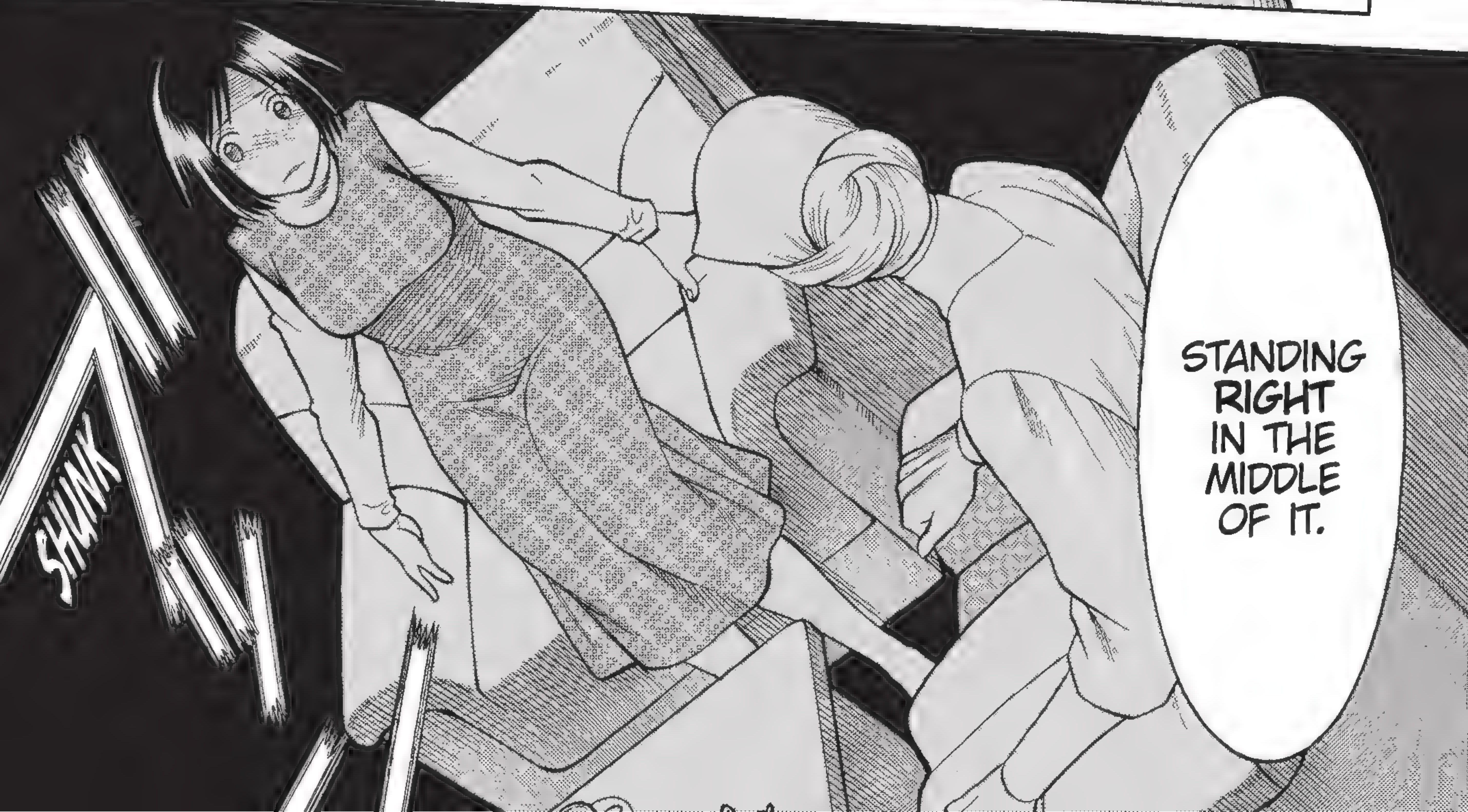




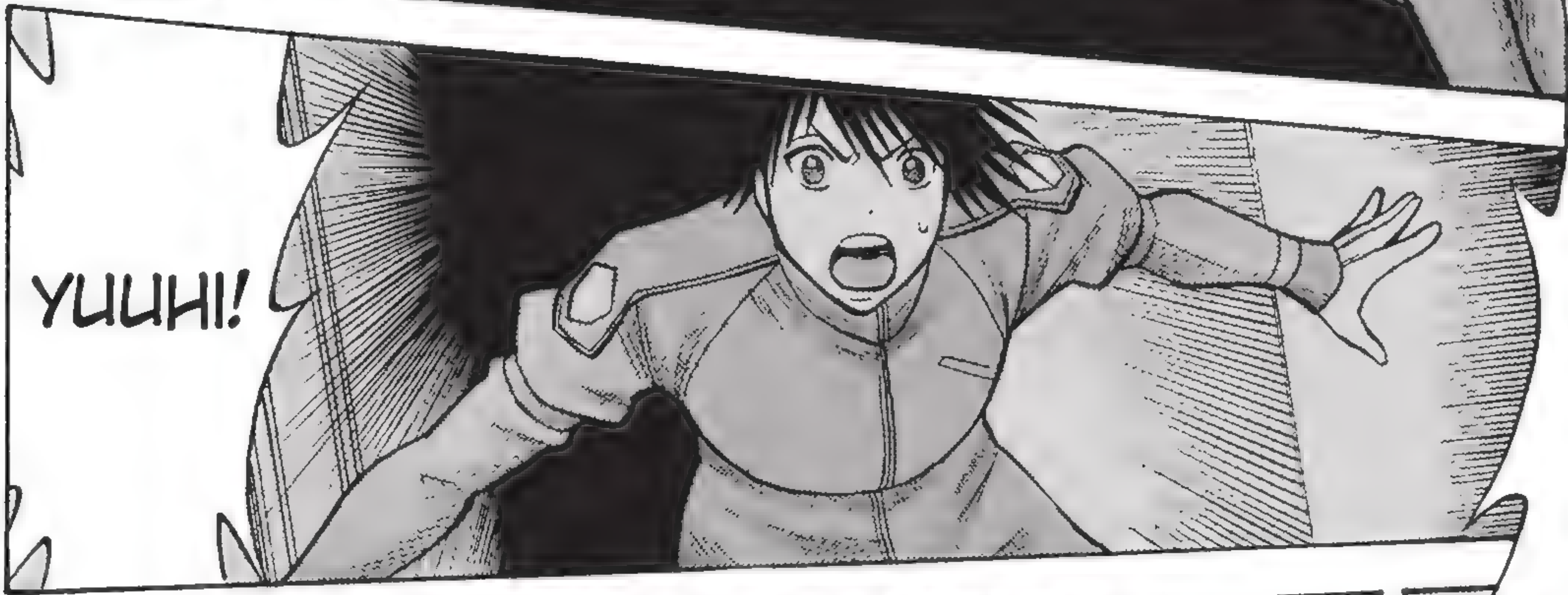
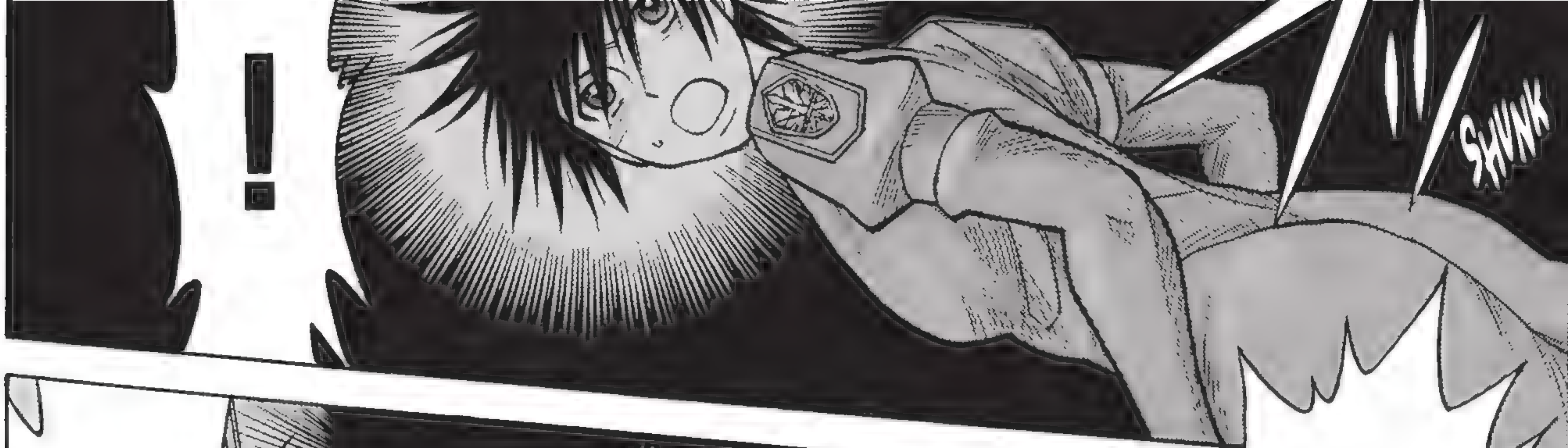
YOU SEE,
THIS IS A
PLACE THAT
DEVOURS
THE WEAK,
DOWN TO
THE VERY
MARROW
OF THEIR
BONES.



AND
THERE
YOU
ARE...



STANDING
RIGHT
IN THE
MIDDLE
OF IT.



YUUKI!

ONII-
CHAMA!

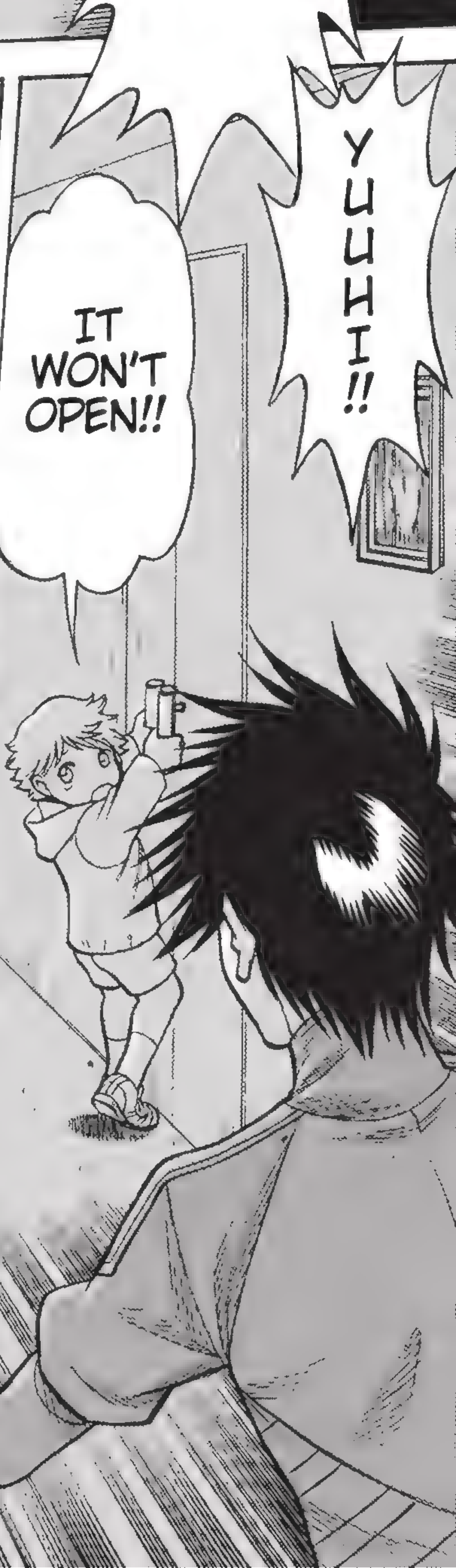


YUKI
!!!

YUKI!
TATIANA!

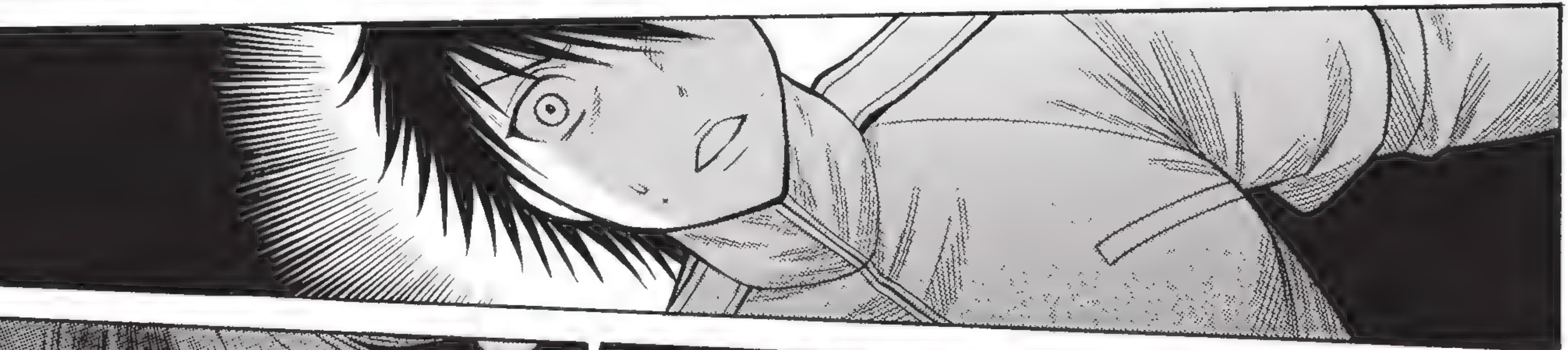
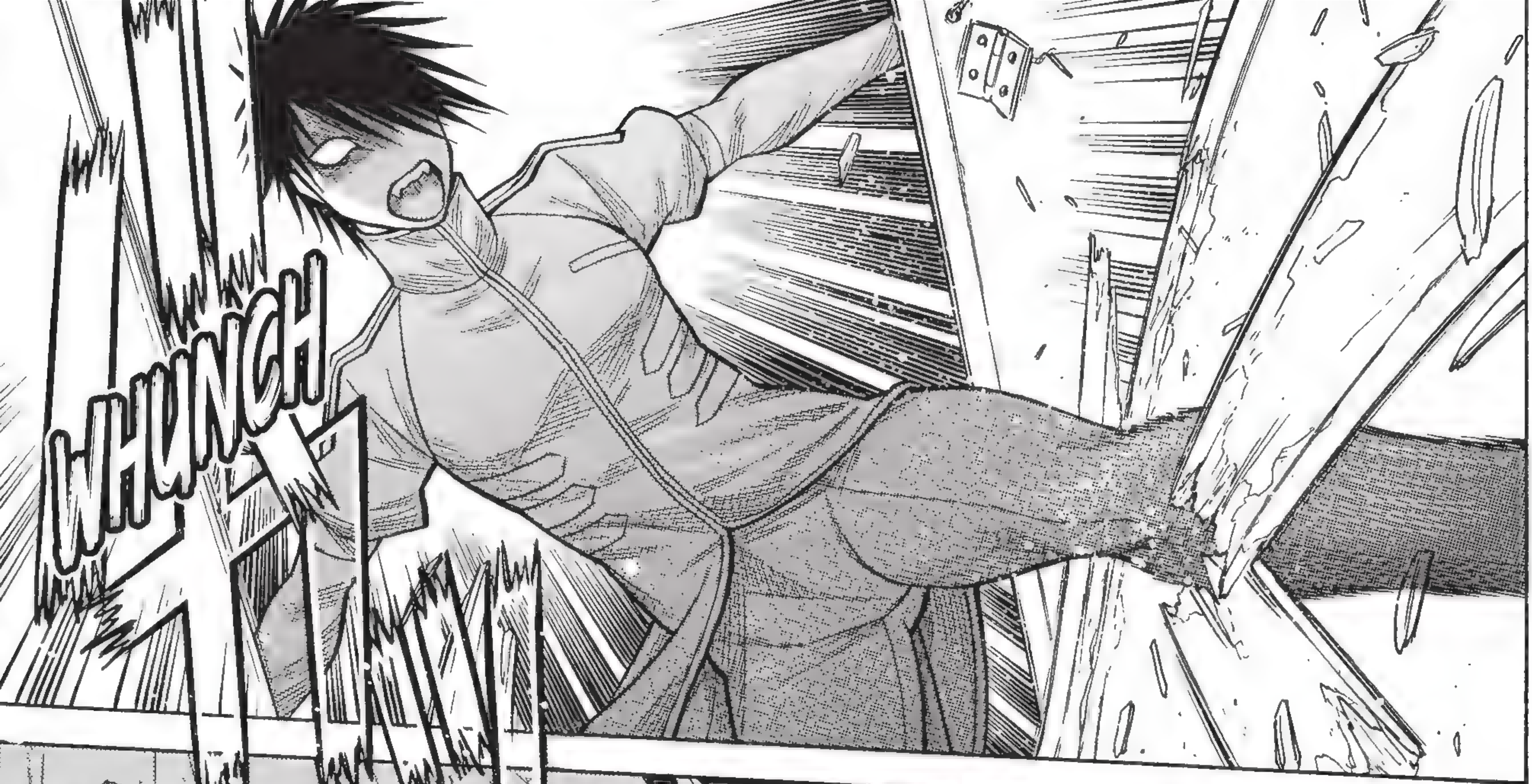


YUUKI,
GET
BACK
!!

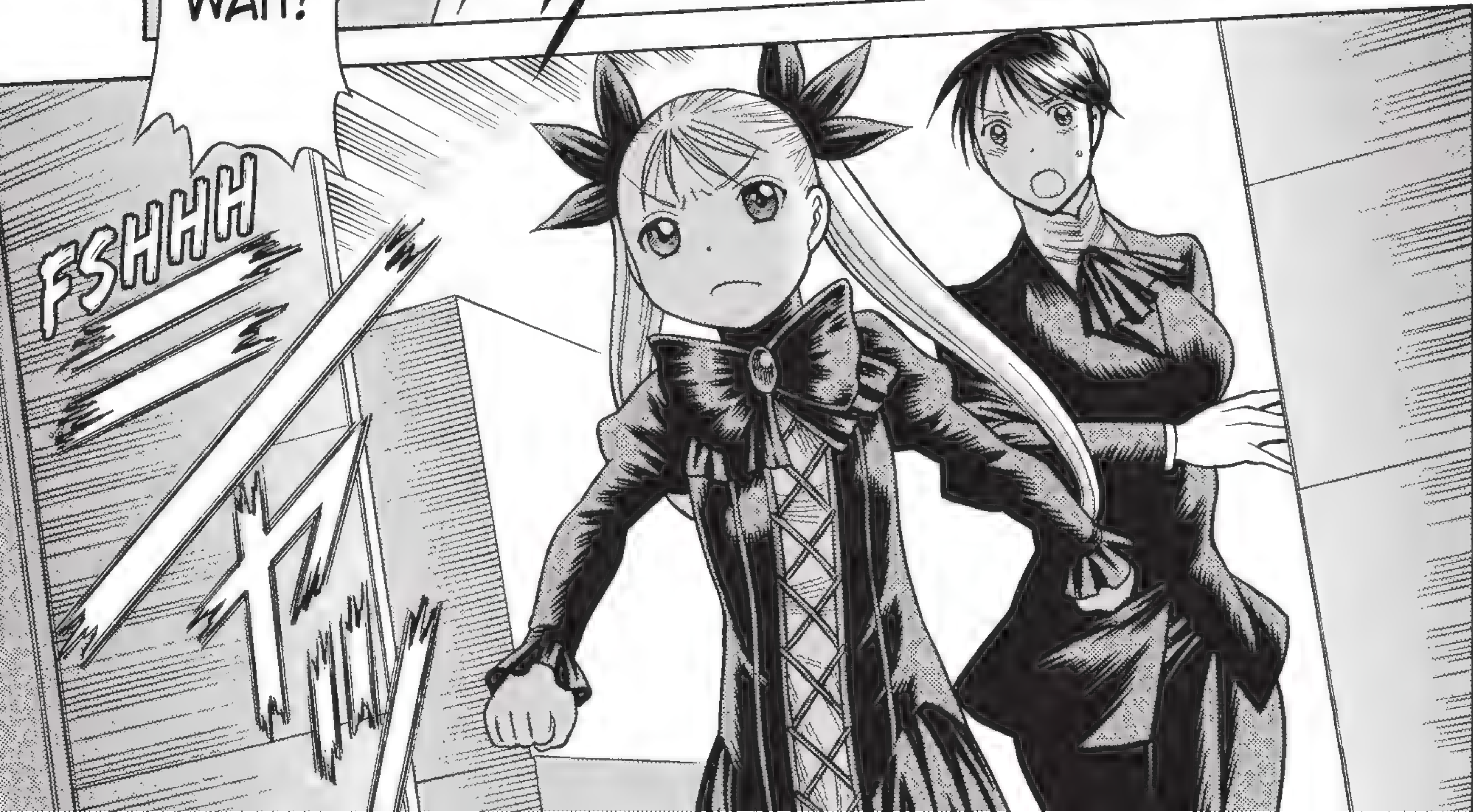
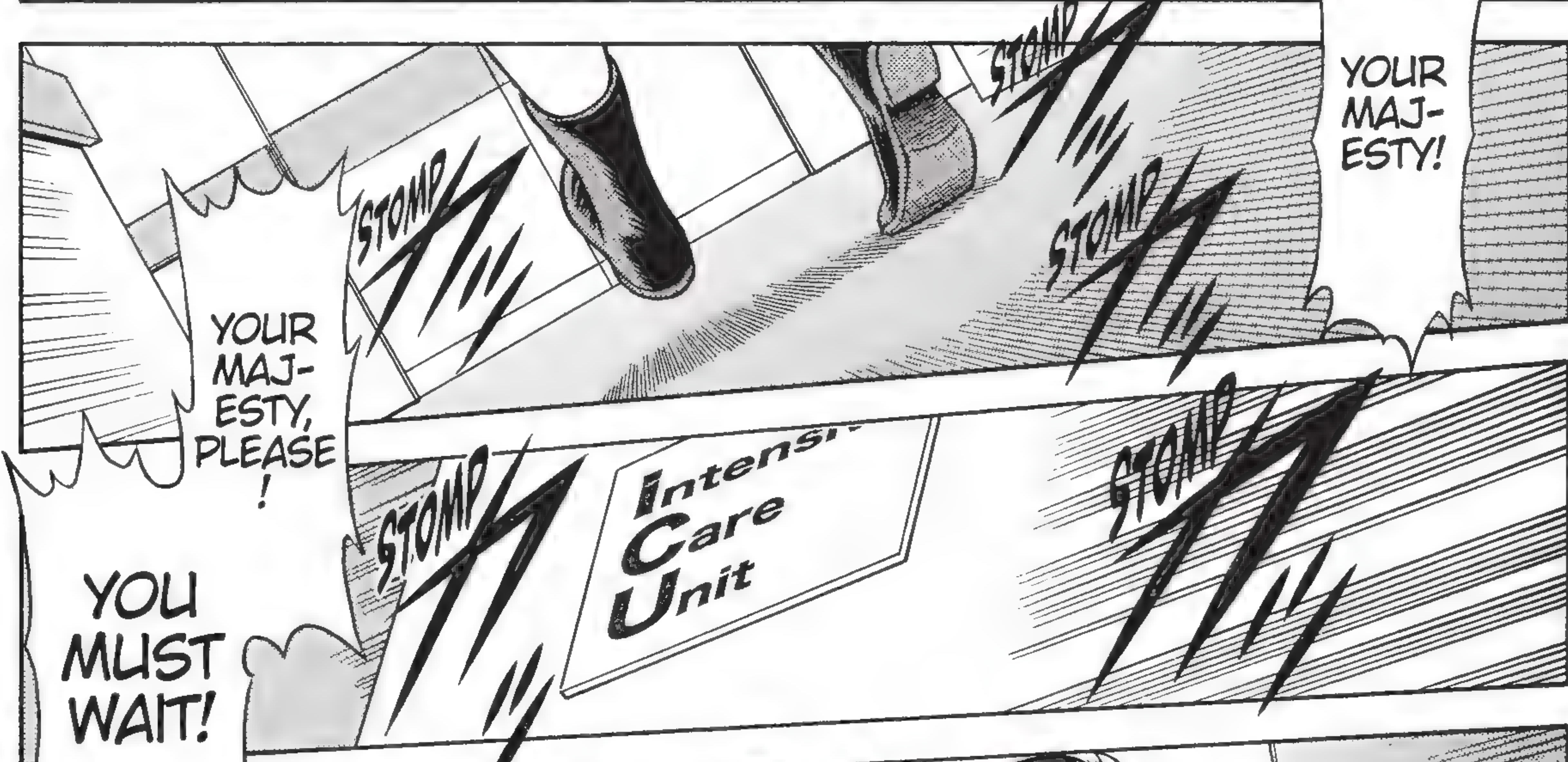
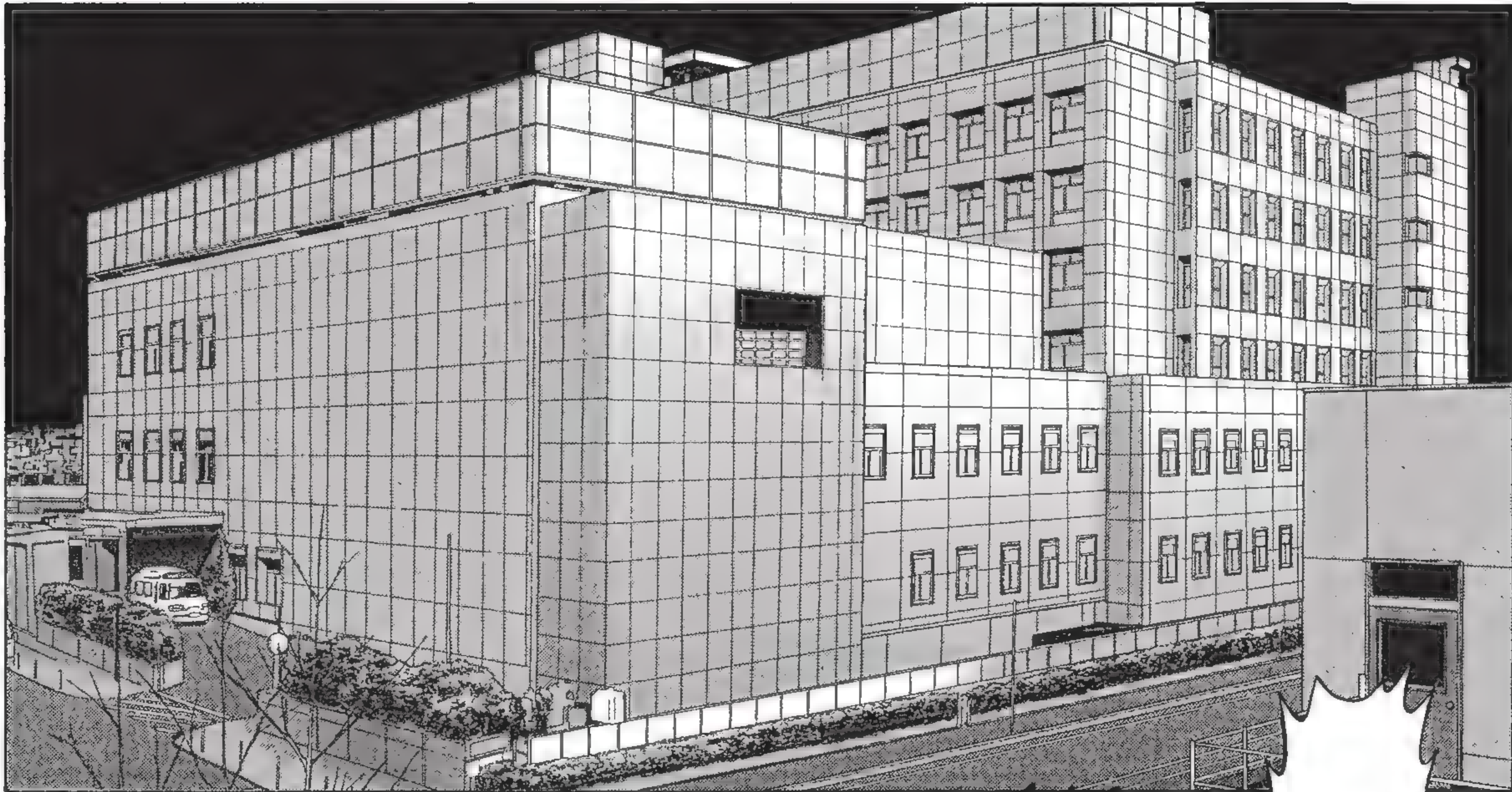


IT
WON'T
OPEN!!

YUUKI!!

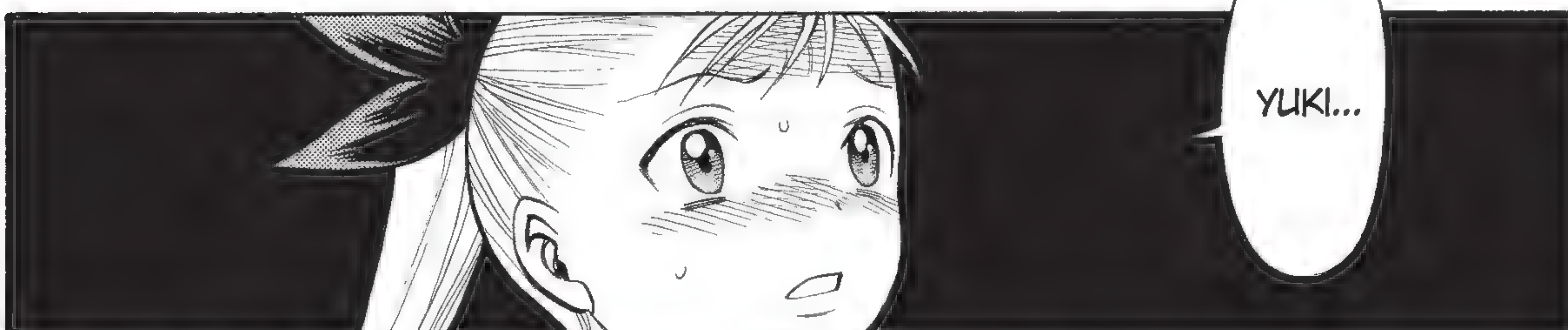






Chapter 48: Howl of Lament







AKIRA,
WHAT
ARE
YOU
SAYING
?

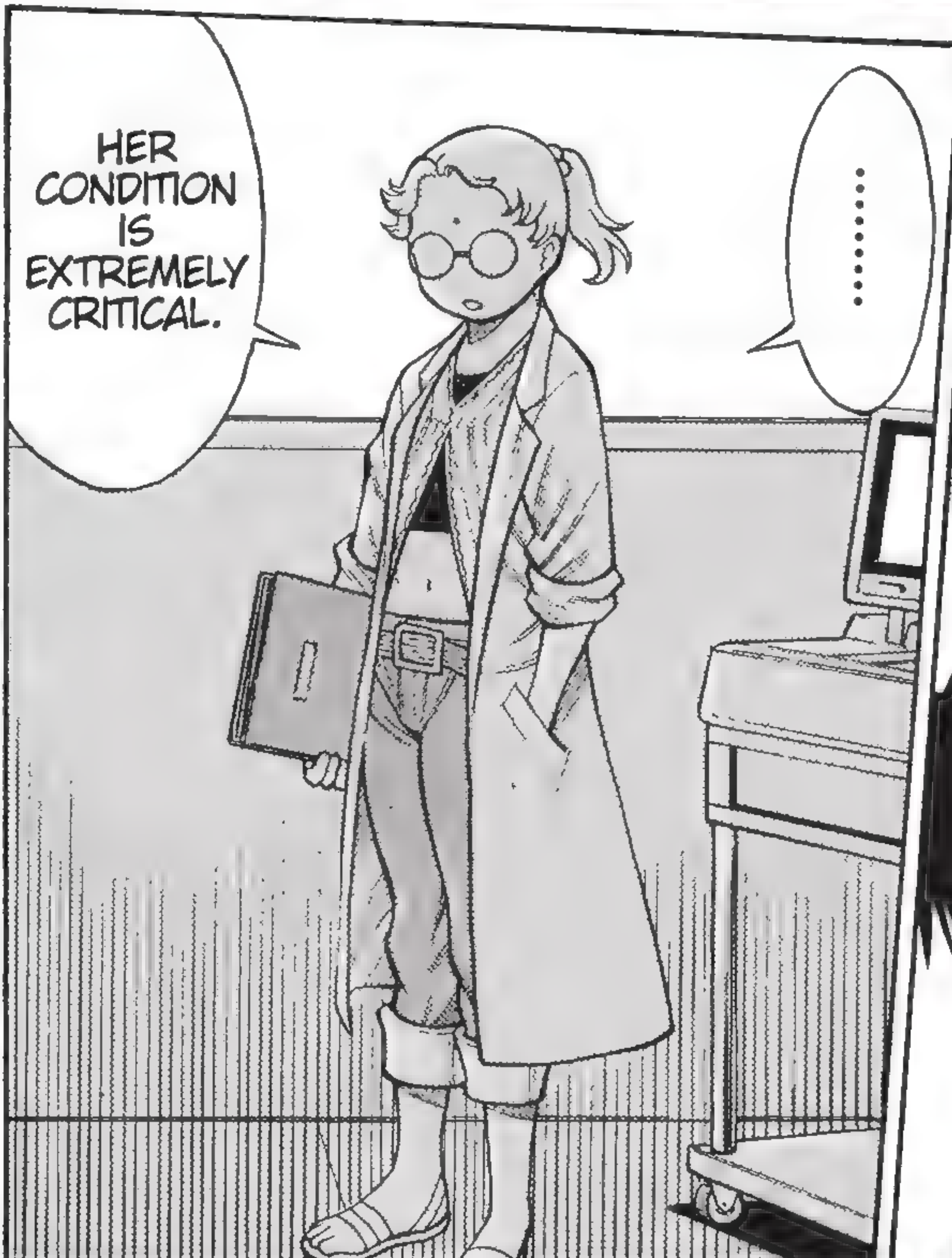


MAYBE I
WOULD'VE
BEEN
THERE
TO...!

IF...
IF I'D
FOLLOWED
YUUKI BACK
WHEN HE
FIRST RAN
OFF, THEN
MAYBE I
WOULD'VE
GOTTEN
THERE
SOONER...




HERE,
LOOK
AT
THIS.



HER
CONDITION
IS
EXTREMELY
CRITICAL.



DOCTOR!



AS THE
HEMATOMA
EXPANDS,
IT IS PUTTING
GREATER AND
GREATER
PRESSURE ON
HER BRAIN.
IT IS BECAUSE OF
THAT PRESSURE
THAT SHE IS
CURRENTLY IN
A COMA.

THE BLUNT-
FORCE TRAUMA
TO THE PTERION
REGION OF HER
SKULL WAS
STRONG ENOUGH
TO CAUSE AN
EPIDURAL
HEMATOMA,
BLEEDING
BETWEEN THE
SKULL AND THE
PROTECTIVE
MEMBRANE THAT
SURROUNDS
THE BRAIN.

BRAIN
DEATH.

THE
LONGER THIS
CONDITION
CONTINUES,
THE MORE
DAMAGE
IS DONE.
WORST CASE
SCENARIO
IS...

I CAN'T,
YOUR
MAJESTY.
THERE IS
NO CURE
FOR HER
CONDITION.

TELL
ME
HOW
YOU
ARE
GOING
TO
HEAL
HER!

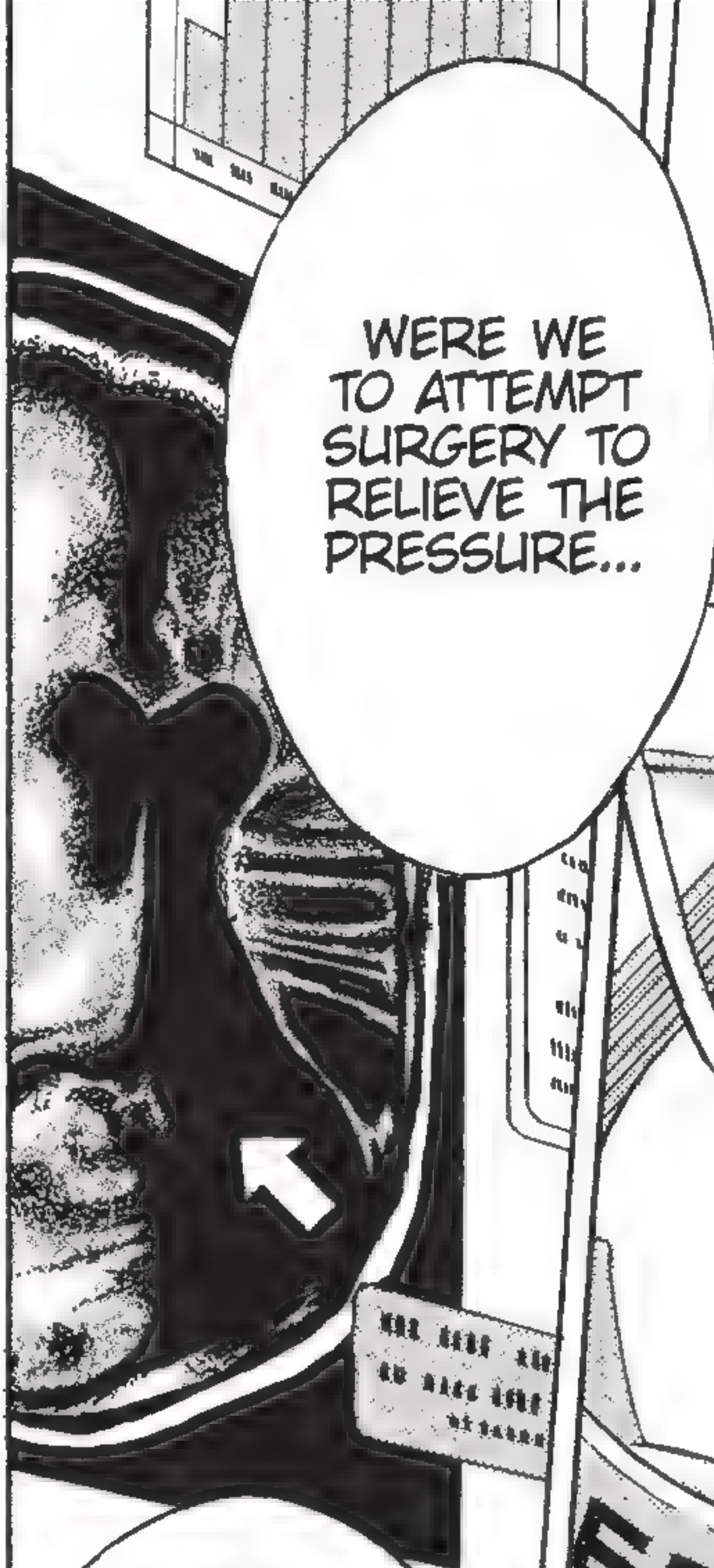
ENOUGH
WITH
THE
THEAT-
RICS!



SO YOU...
CANNOT
SAVE
HER...?



NOT
AT
ALL
...?



WERE WE
TO ATTEMPT
SURGERY TO
RELIEVE THE
PRESSURE...

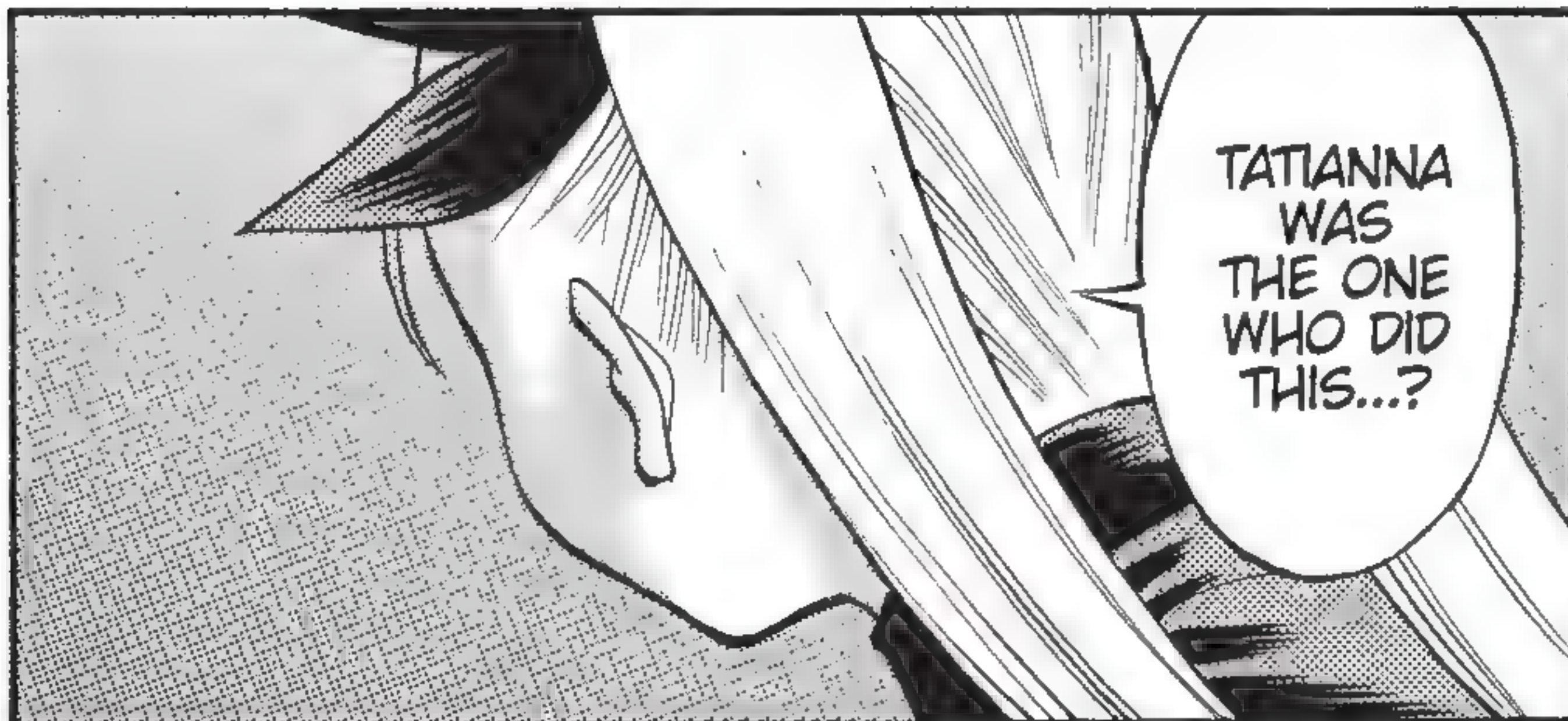


YOU SEE,
THE
SWELLING
ISN'T THE
ONLY
PROBLEM.

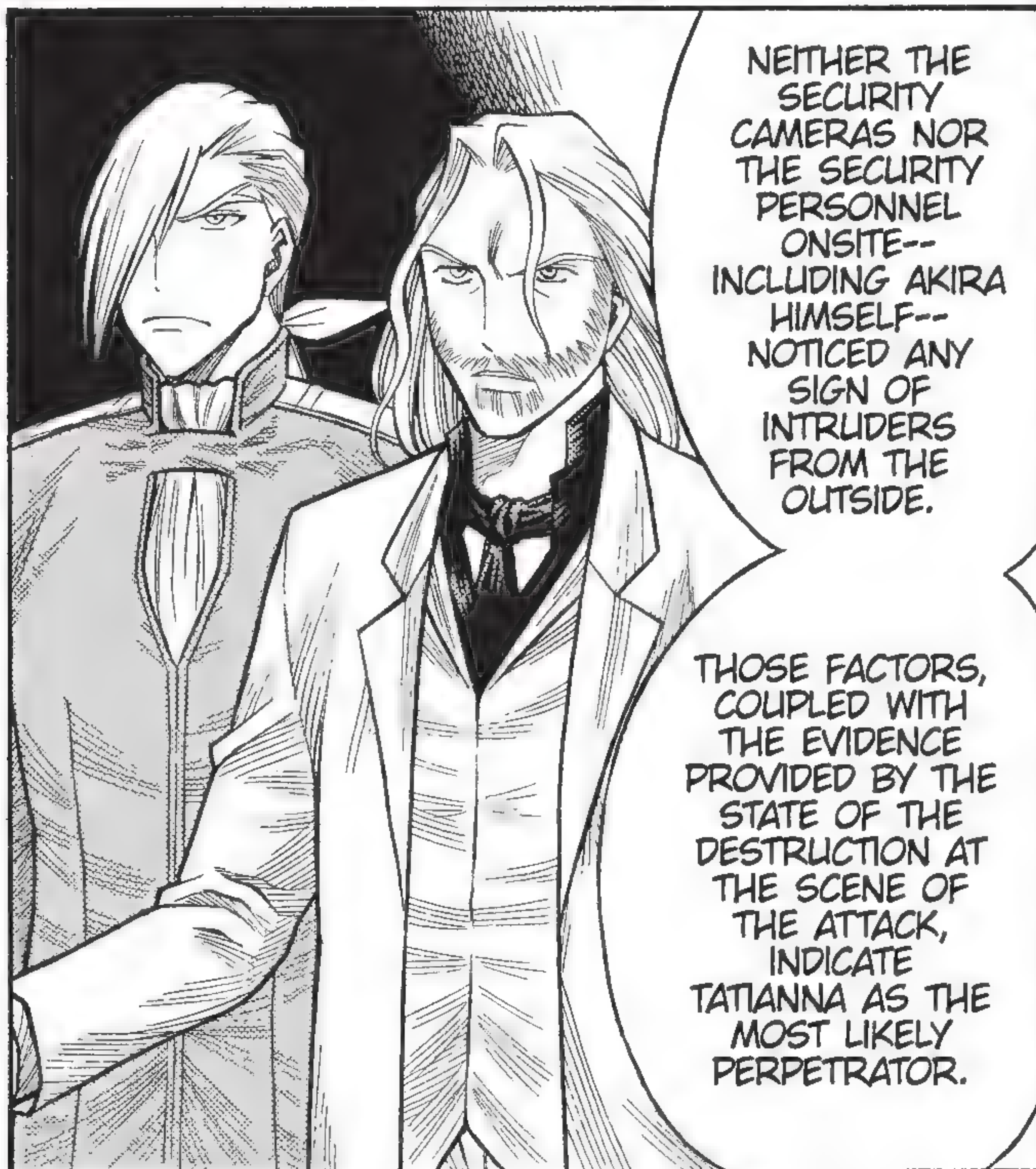
IT IS
ALMOST
CERTAIN
THAT SHE
WOULD
EXPERIENCE
SUDDEN,
EXTREME
BLOOD LOSS.
IT WOULD
DAMAGE
HER BRAIN
BEYOND
REPAIR.

THE
MENINGEAL
VEINS THAT
RUN THROUGH
HER DURA
MATER--THE
MEMBRANE
AROUND HER
BRAIN--WERE
ALSO SEVERELY
DAMAGED BY
THE BLOW.





TATIANNA
WAS
THE ONE
WHO DID
THIS...?

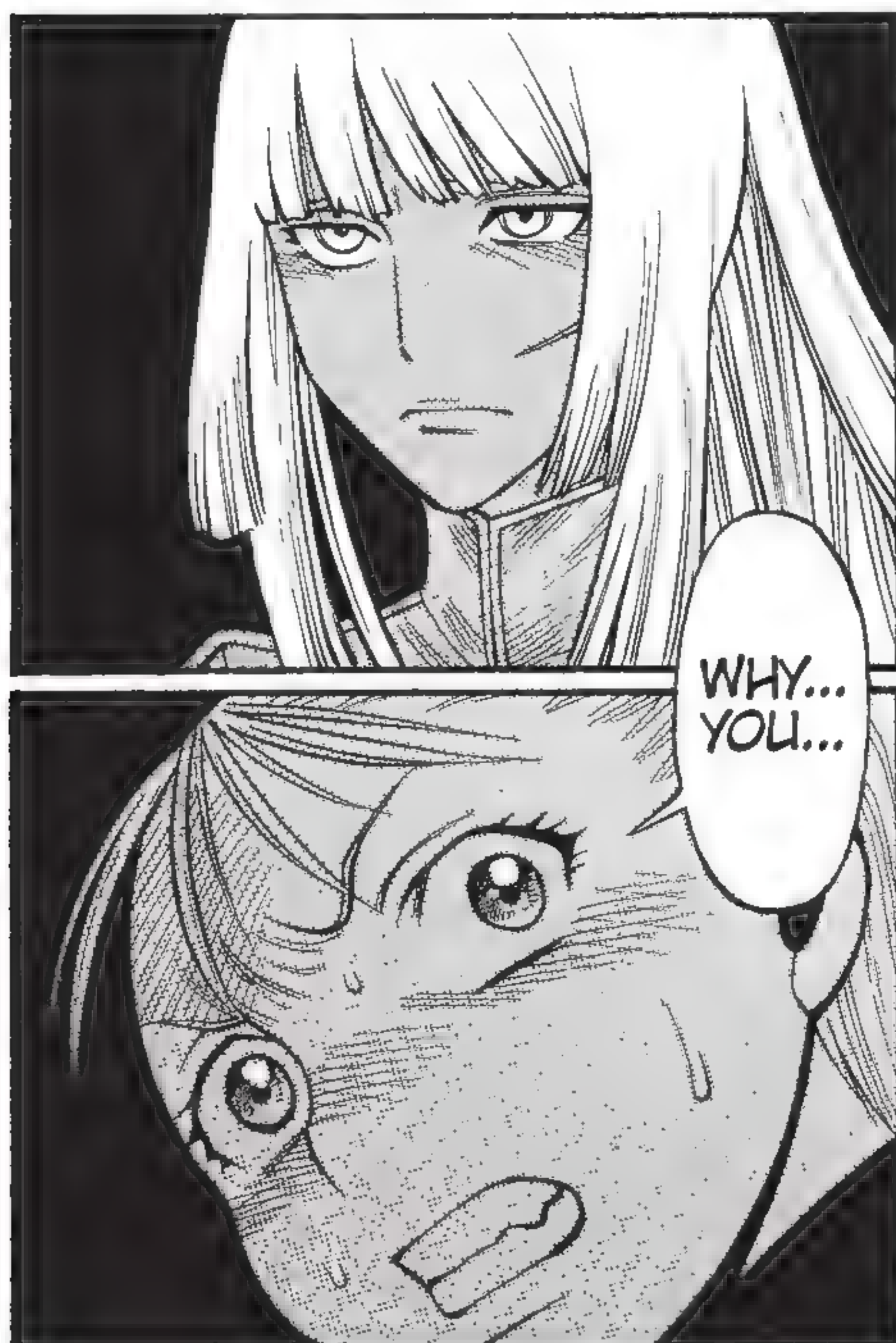


NEITHER THE
SECURITY
CAMERAS NOR
THE SECURITY
PERSONNEL
ONSITE--
INCLUDING AKIRA
HIMSELF--
NOTICED ANY
SIGN OF
INTRUDERS
FROM THE
OUTSIDE.

THOSE FACTORS,
COUPLED WITH
THE EVIDENCE
PROVIDED BY THE
STATE OF THE
DESTRUCTION AT
THE SCENE OF
THE ATTACK,
INDICATE
TATIANNA AS THE
MOST LIKELY
PERPETRATOR.



CURRENTLY, I
HAVE DIRECTED
BOTH BEOWULF
AND THE VGS
TO PUT THEIR
FULL ATTENTION
TOWARDS
LOCATING AND
APPREHENDING
TATIANNA
HUMORESQUE.



WHY...
YOU...



RECORDED
DIALOGUE
...?

WHY
DOES
SUCH A
THING
EVEN
EXIST
?!



THE DIALOGUE
ANGIE HAD
RECORDED AT
THE TIME OF
THE ATTACK
CORROBORATES
THIS.



YOUR
ANGER
IS MOST
JUST,
YOUR
MAJESTY...

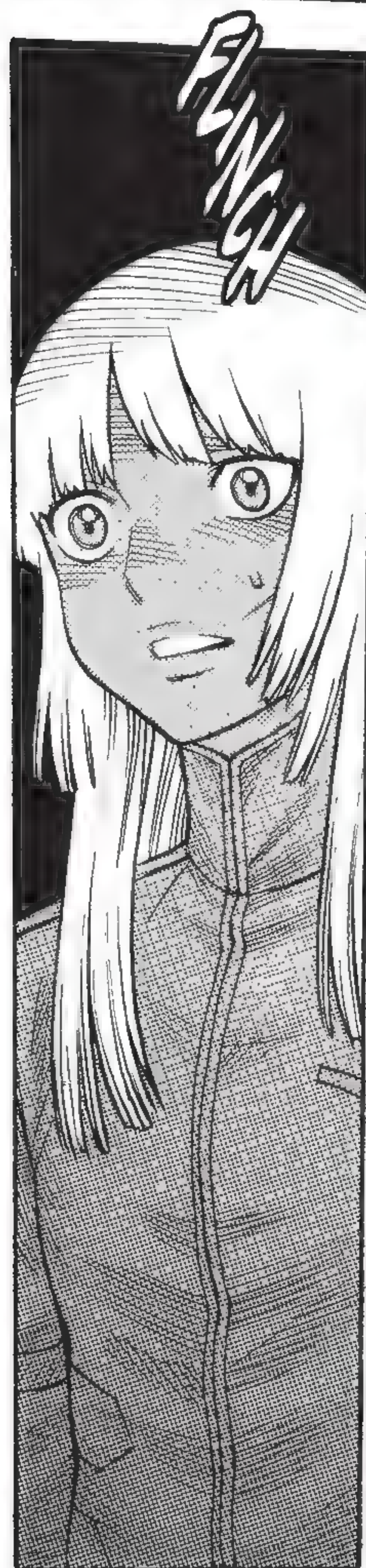
.....

BUT I
BELIEVE
PLANNING
OUR
RESPONSE
TO THIS
SITUATION
HOLDS
PRIORITY
RIGHT NOW.



MANGY
CLR!

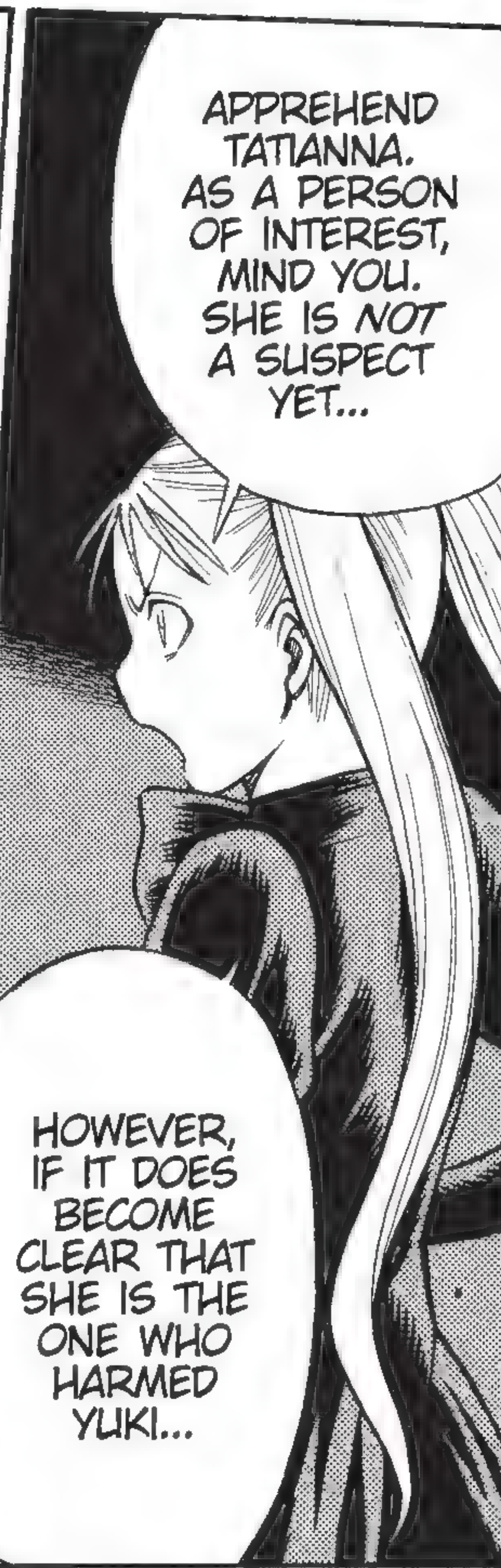
WHAT
DID
YOU
MAKE
YUKI
DO?!!



FLING

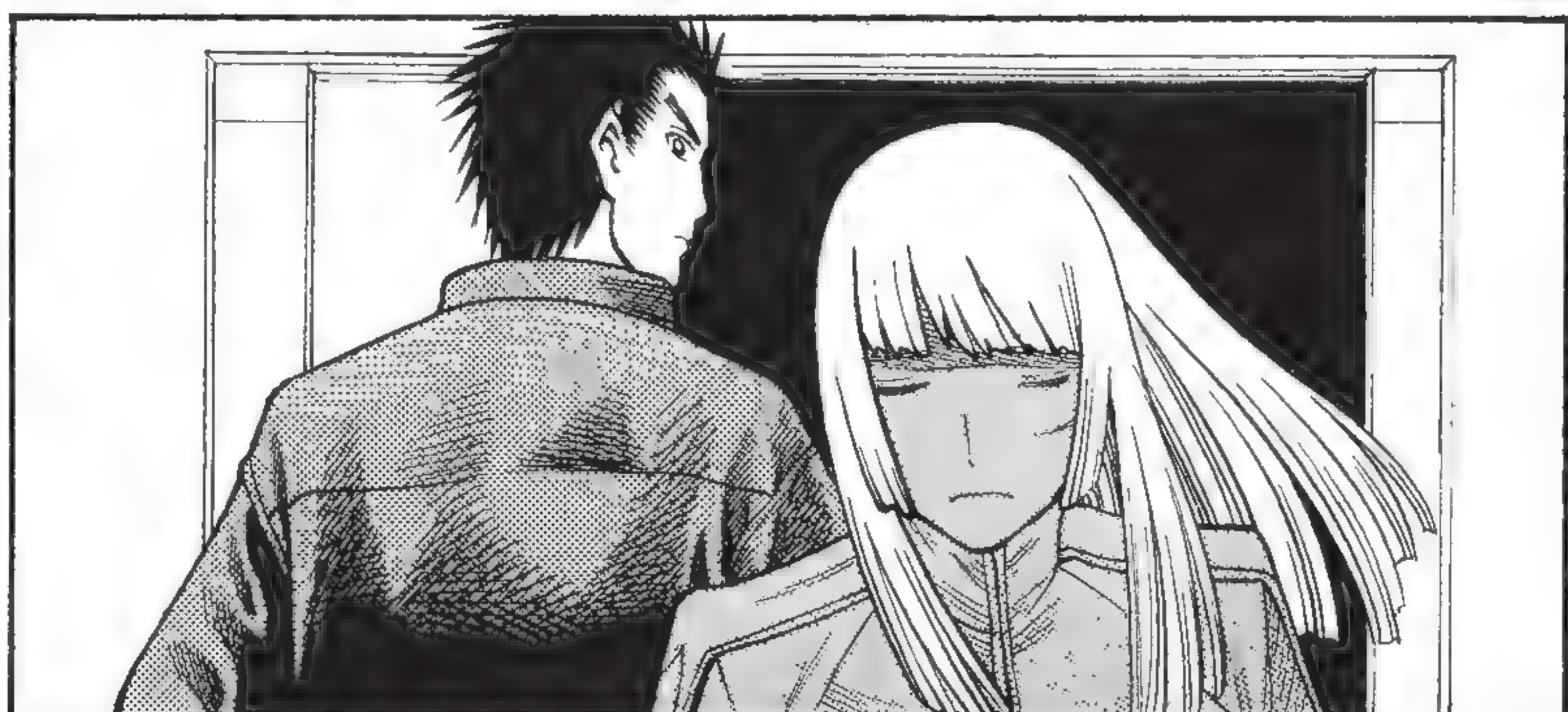
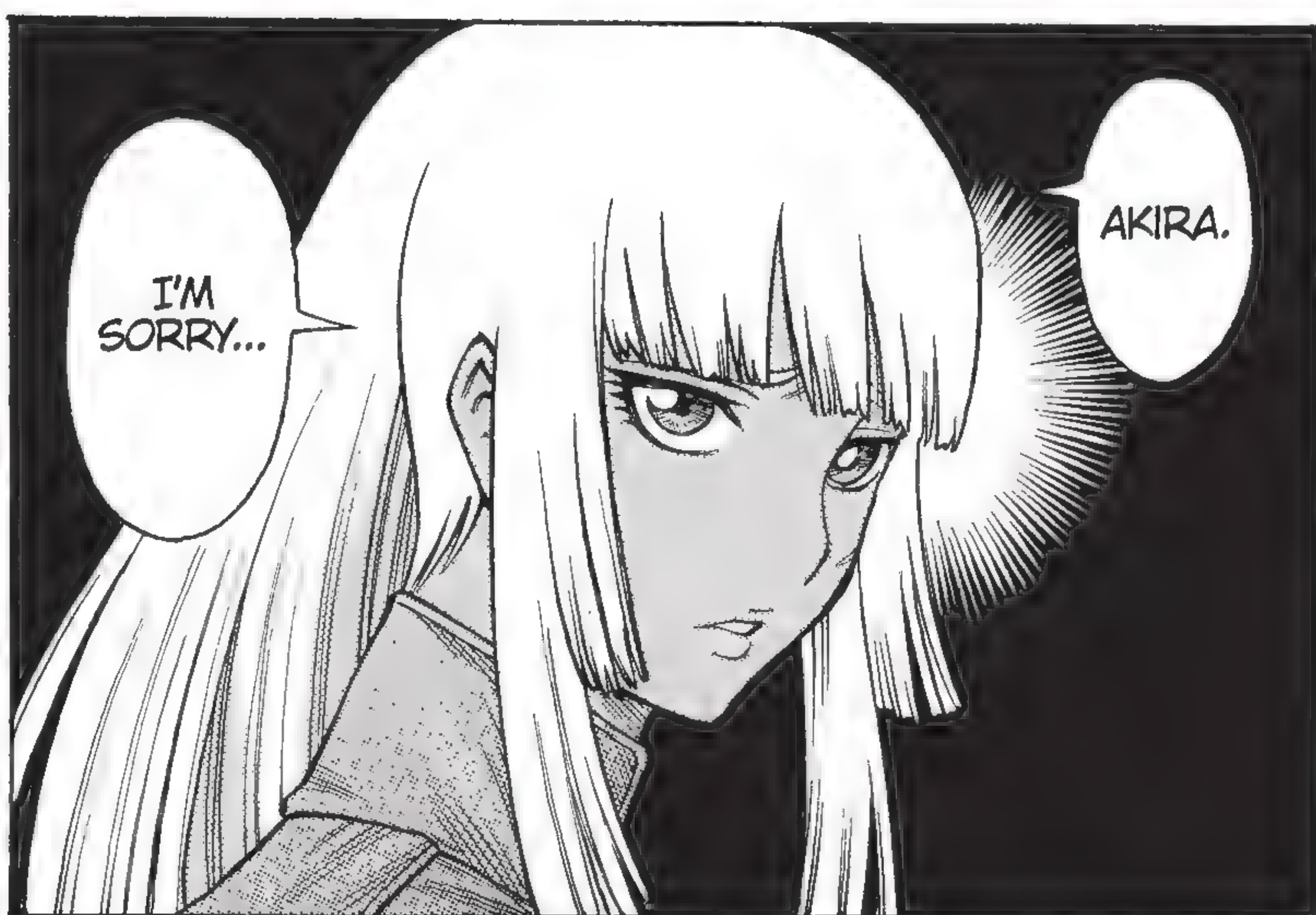
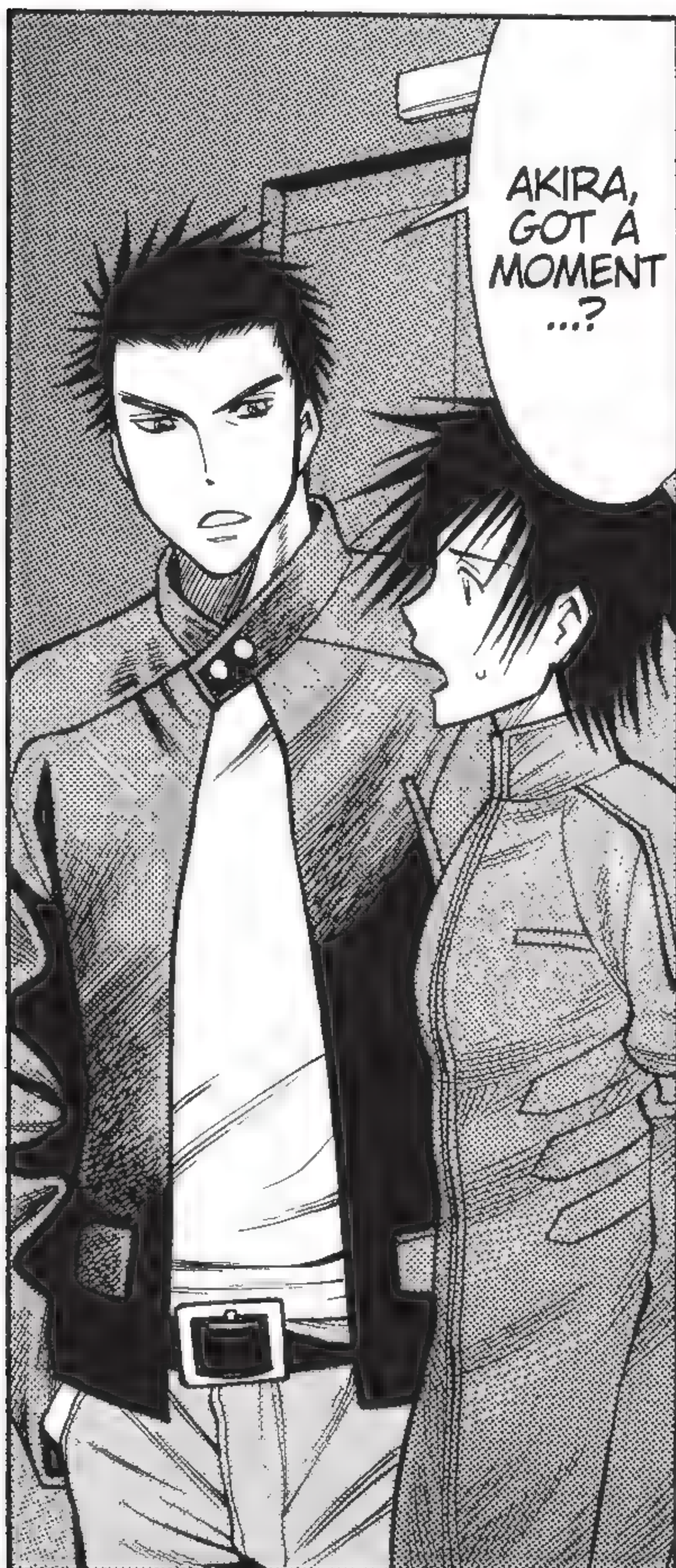
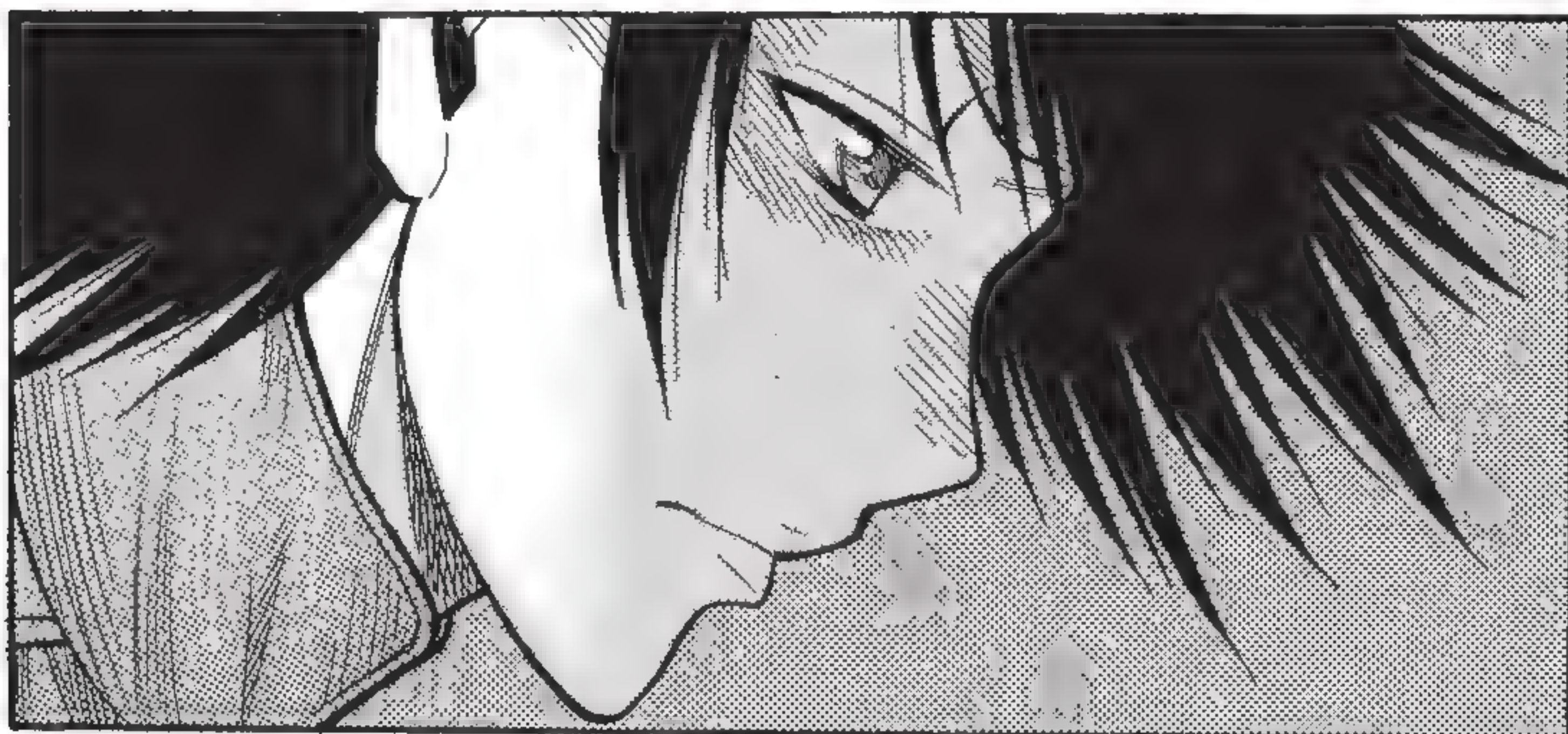
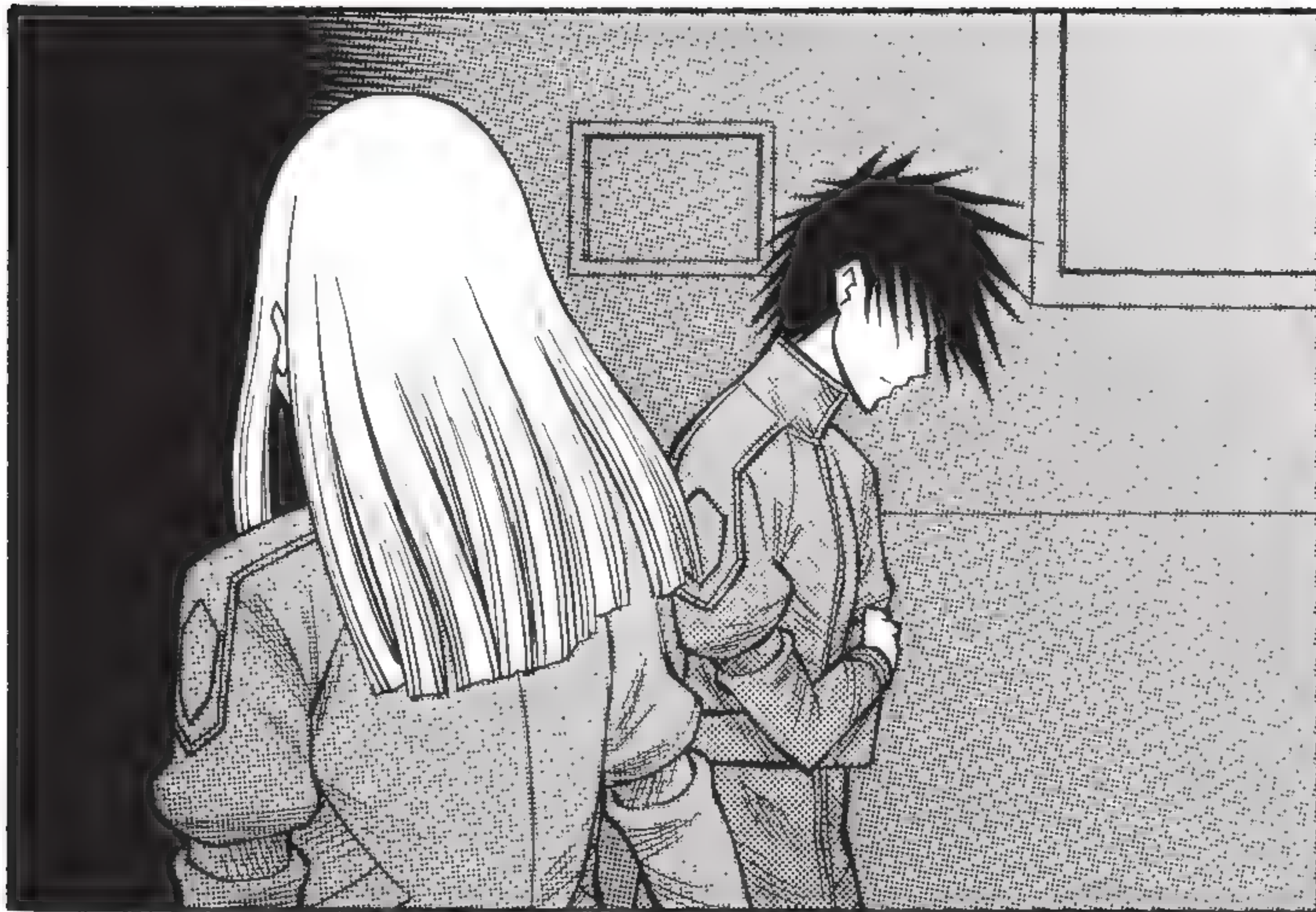


THEN
I WILL
RIP
HER TO
PIECES
WITH
MY
OWN
BARE
HANDS
!!




APPREHEND
TATIANNA.
AS A PERSON
OF INTEREST,
MIND YOU.
SHE IS NOT
A SUSPECT
YET...

HOWEVER,
IF IT DOES
BECOME
CLEAR THAT
SHE IS THE
ONE WHO
HARMED
YUKI...







THE PRECINCT
HAS ALREADY
OPENED AN
INVESTIGATION
INTO IT,
LOOKING AT IT
FROM BOTH
AN ACCIDENT
ANGLE AND AS
DELIBERATE
SABOTAGE.

THERE'S
EVIDENCE
THAT AN
ACCELERANT
WAS USED
IN THE
FIRE.

ONLY A
SMALL PART
OF THE
VICTIM'S
CORPSE
REMAINED.



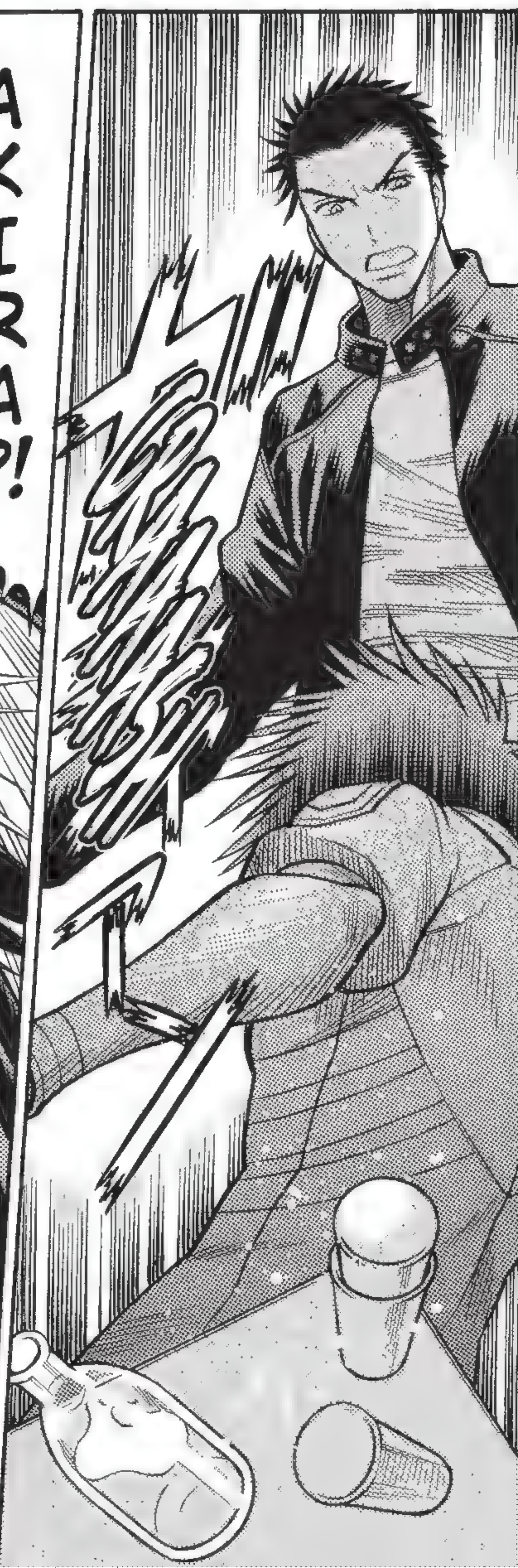
AGAIN...
I-IT'S ALL
STARTING
AGAIN...

THE
PEOPLE
AROUND
ME...

THEY'RE
ALL...



AKIRA?!





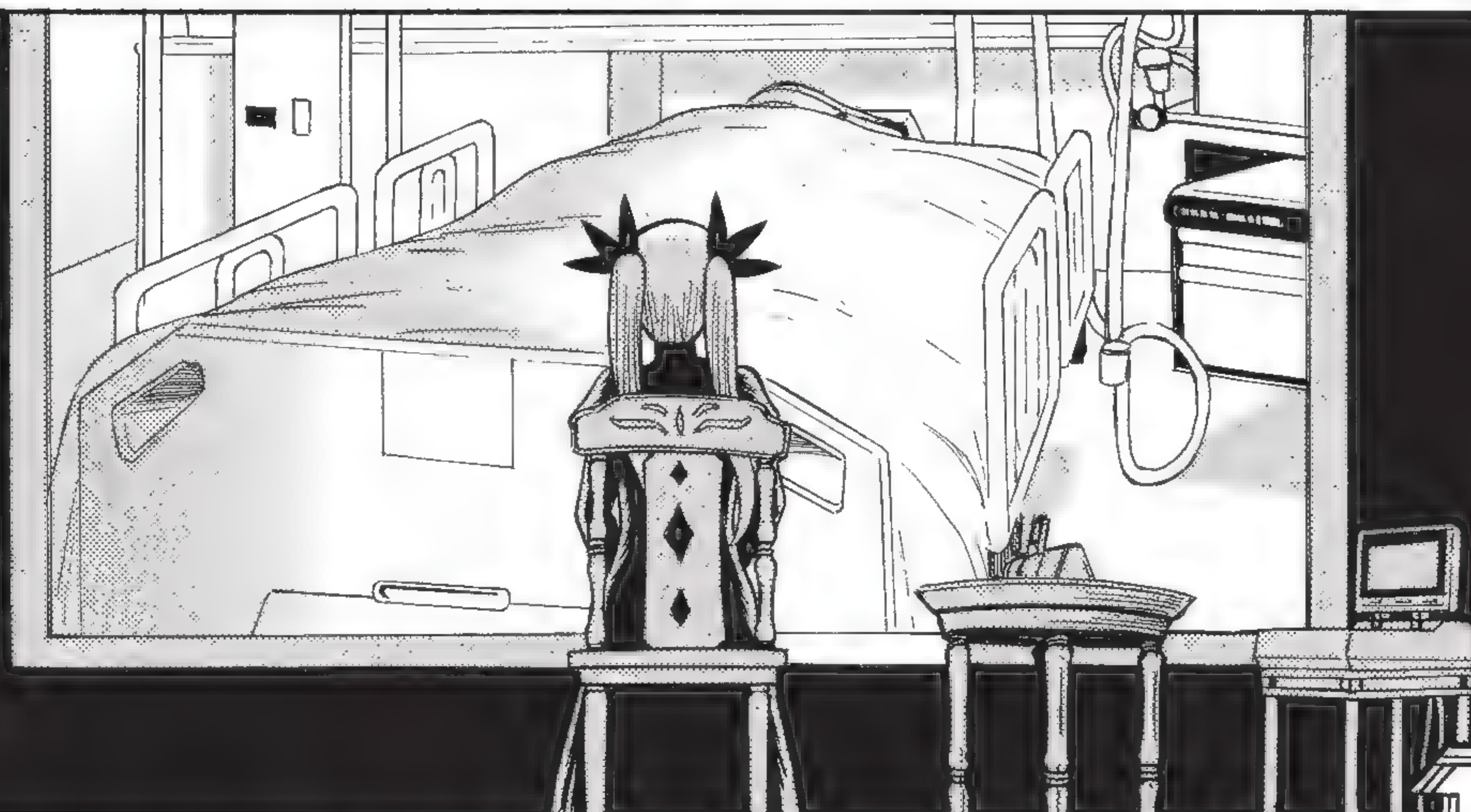
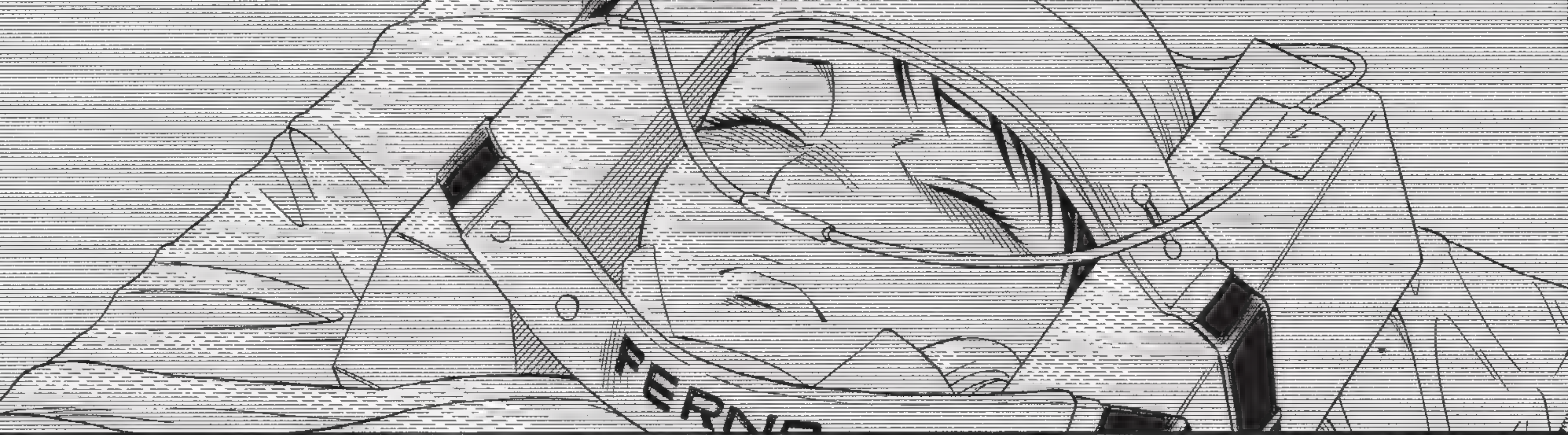
AKIRA!

I...
I...

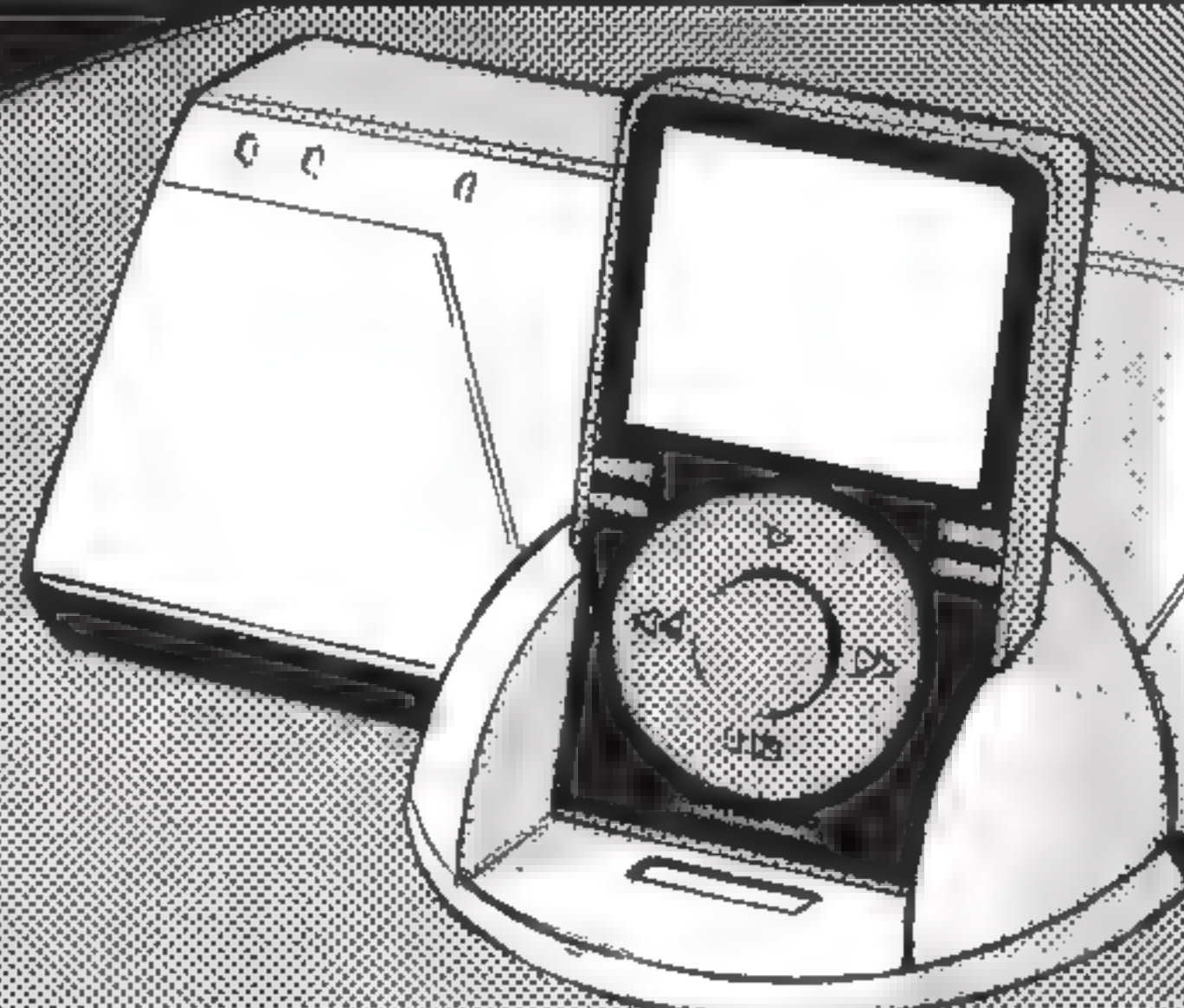
AKIRA!!

A
A
H
H
H
H
!!!

FERNO



AND
THERE
YOU
ARE...

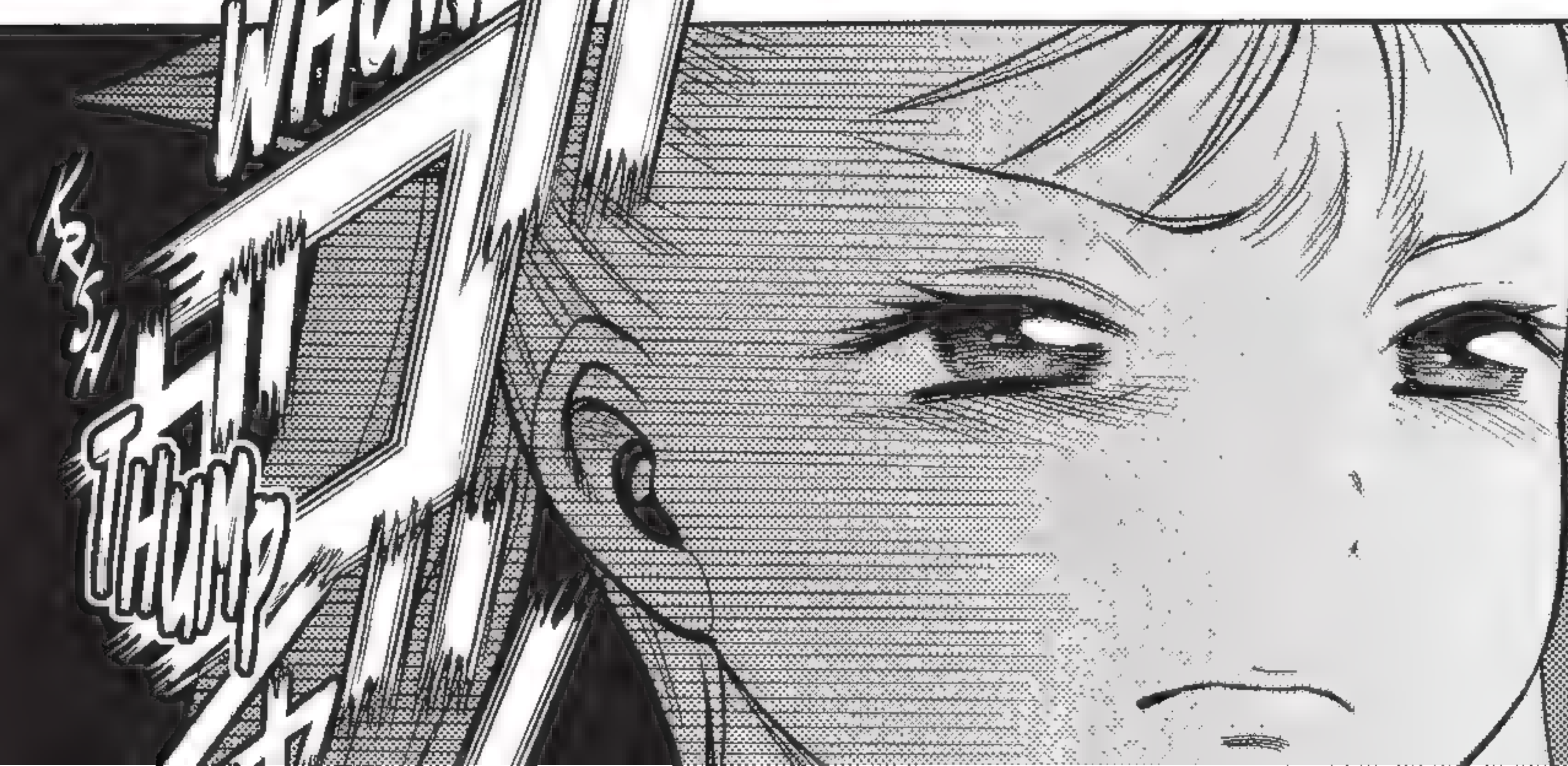


YOU SEE,
THIS IS A
PLACE THAT
DEVOURS
THE WEAK,
DOWN TO
THE VERY
MARROW
OF THEIR
BONES.

SETTING
FOOT
INTO THIS
WORLD IS
THE LAST,
BIGGEST
MISTAKE
YOU WILL
EVER
MAKE.



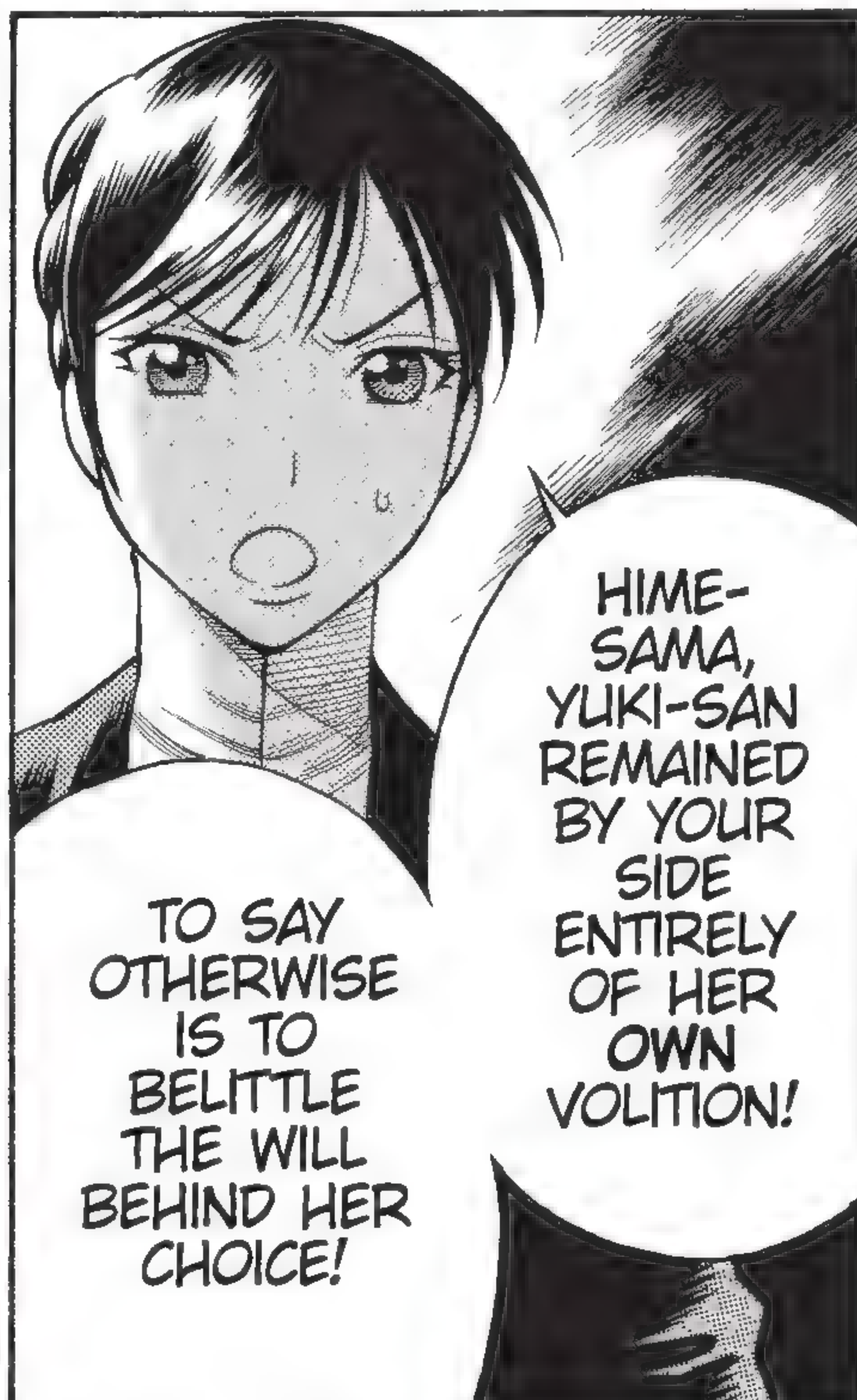
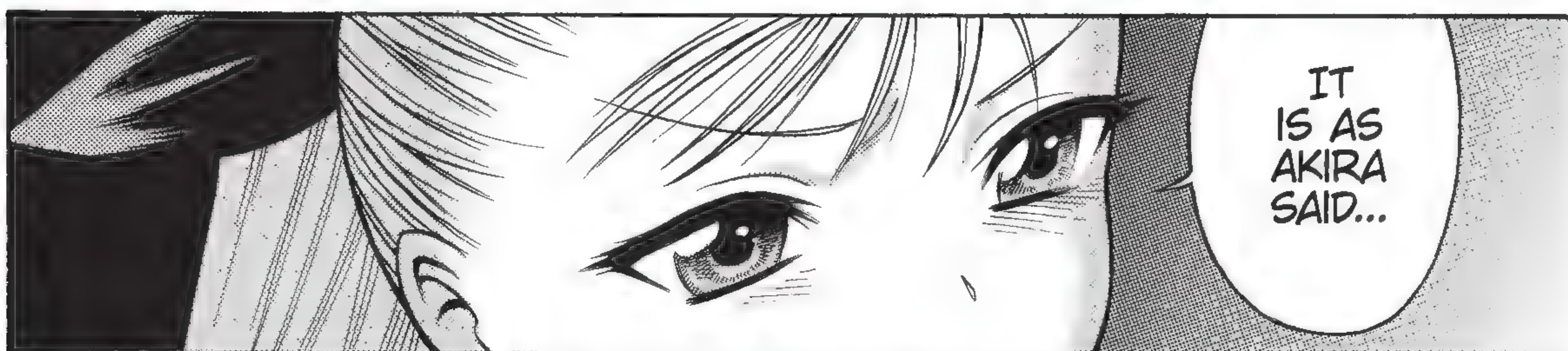
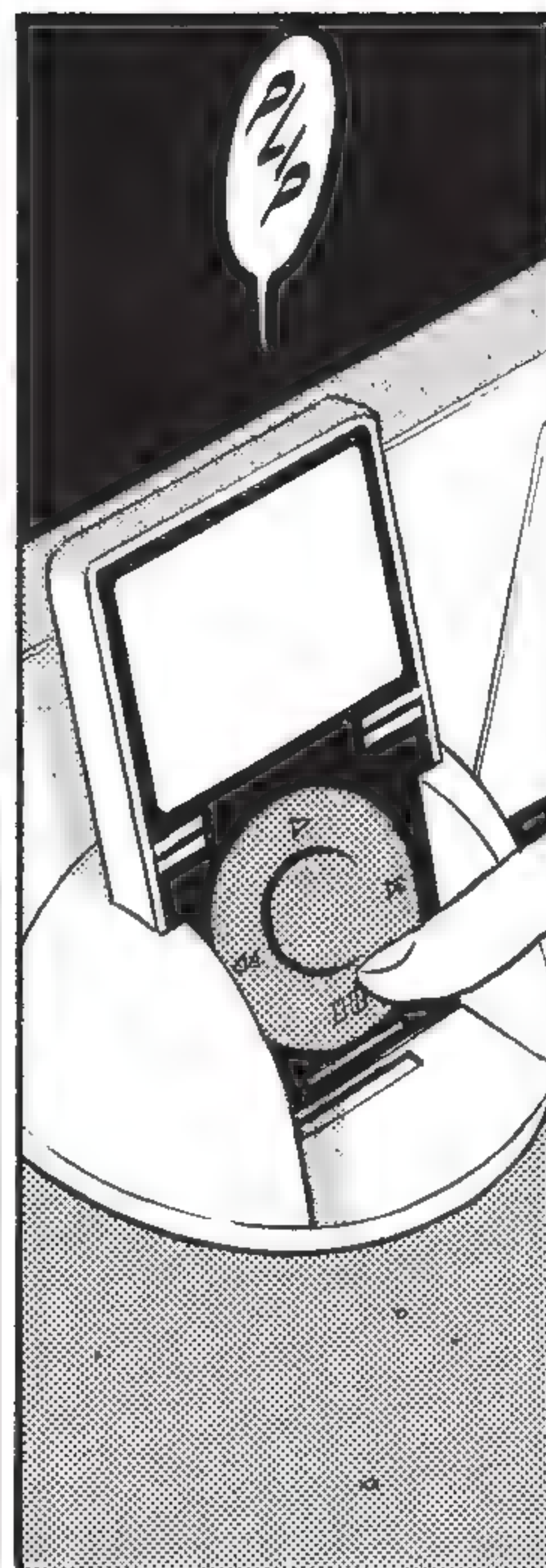
STANDING
RIGHT
IN THE
MIDDLE
OF IT.



KRAK
NO...
LING!

WHA
?!

WHAM



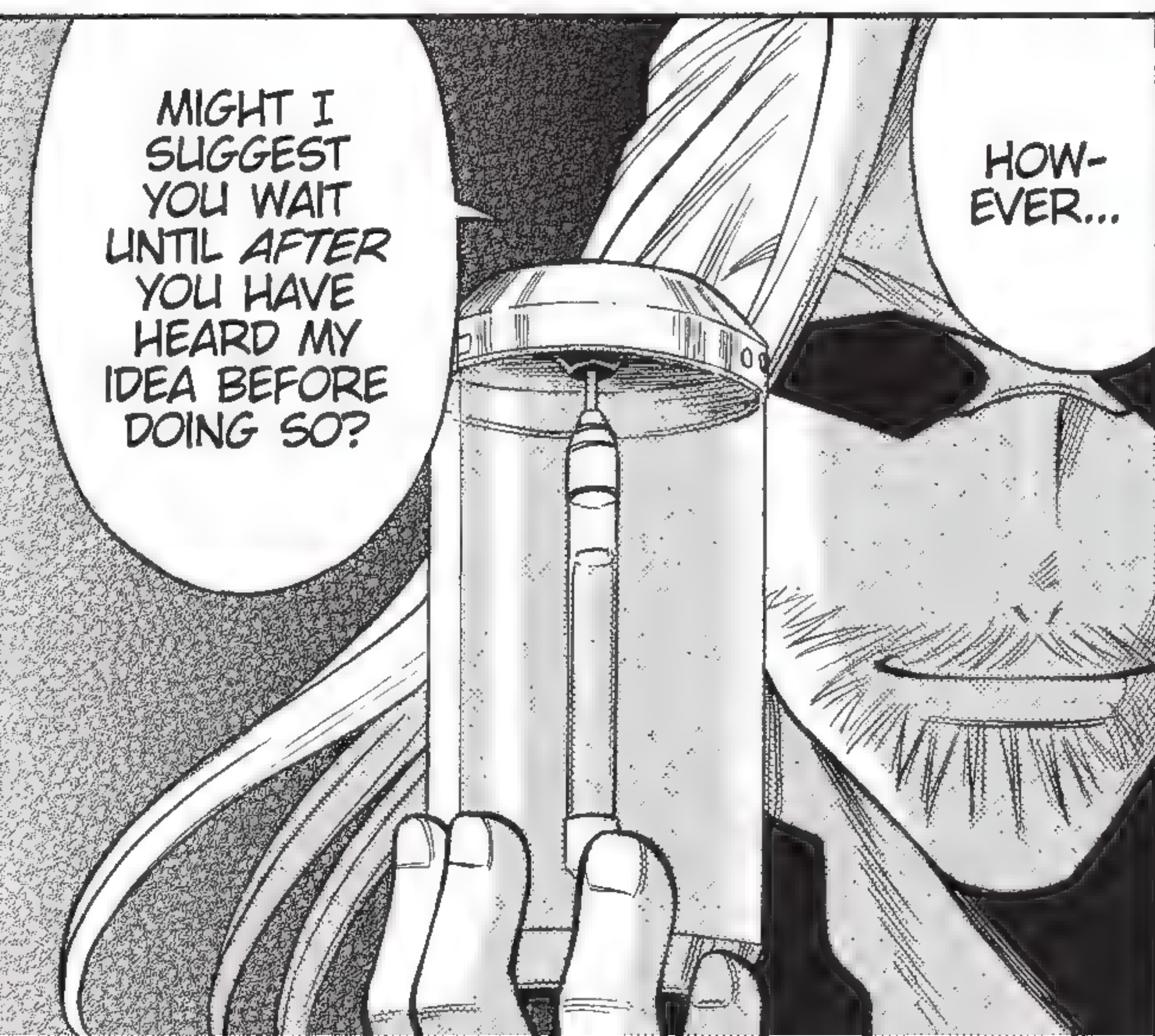


THEN
THAT IS
ALL
WELL
AND
GOOD.

IF THAT
IS YOUR
WISH,
YOUR
MAJESTY
...

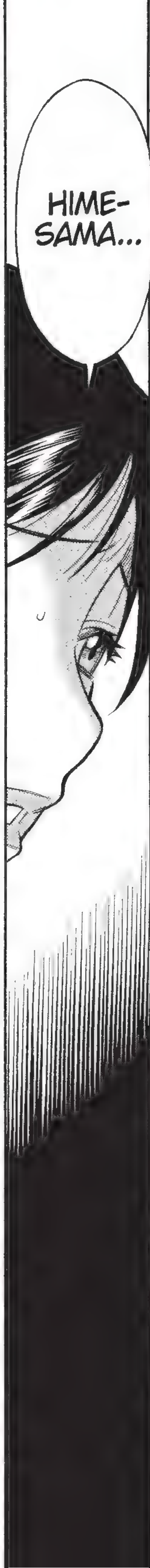


ALPHONSE.



MIGHT I
SUGGEST
YOU WAIT
UNTIL AFTER
YOU HAVE
HEARD MY
IDEA BEFORE
DOING SO?

HOW-
EVER...



HIME-
SAMA...

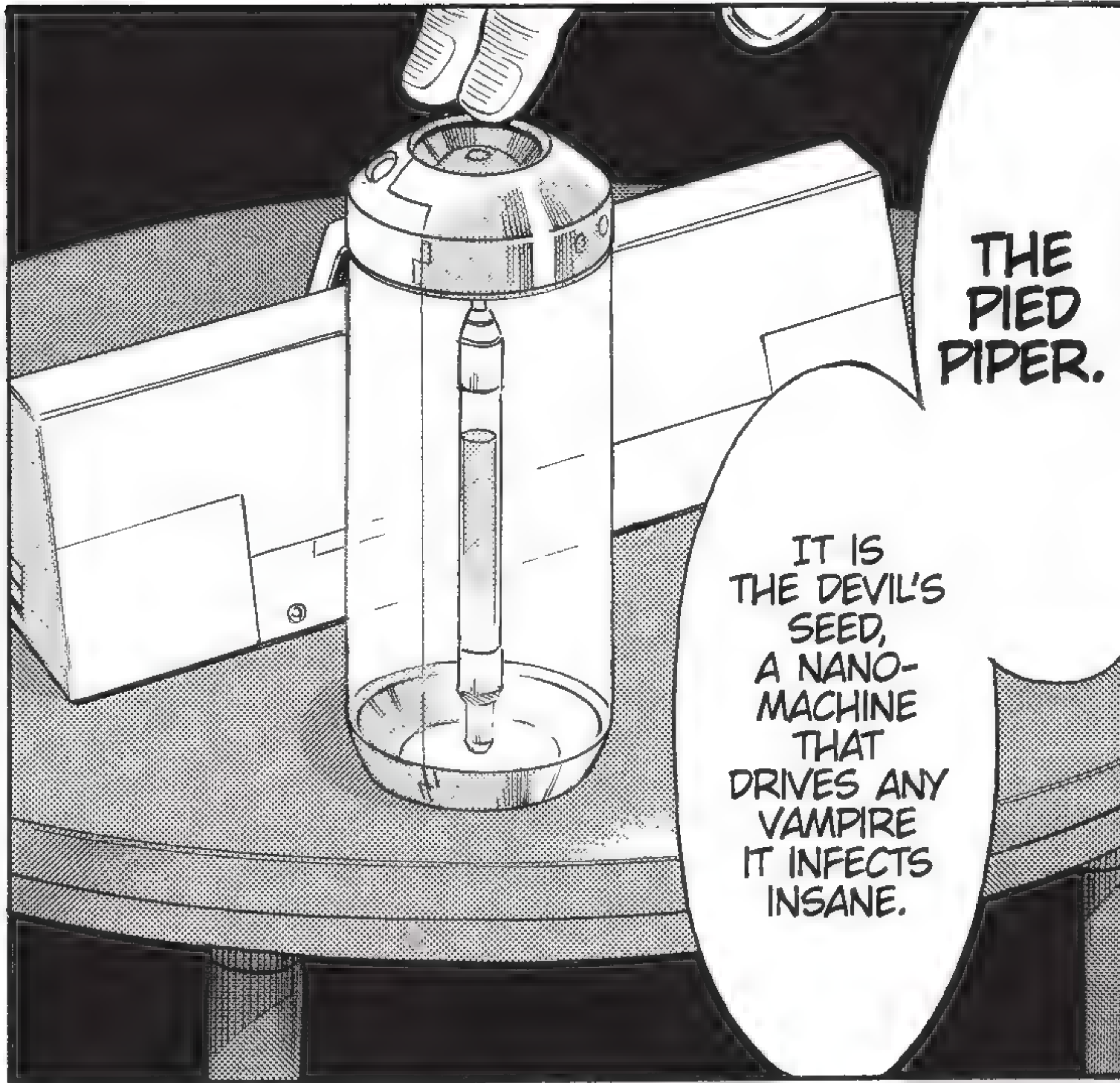


SOME-
TIMES...

I WISH
I COULD
TEAR
MYSELF
TO
PIECES!

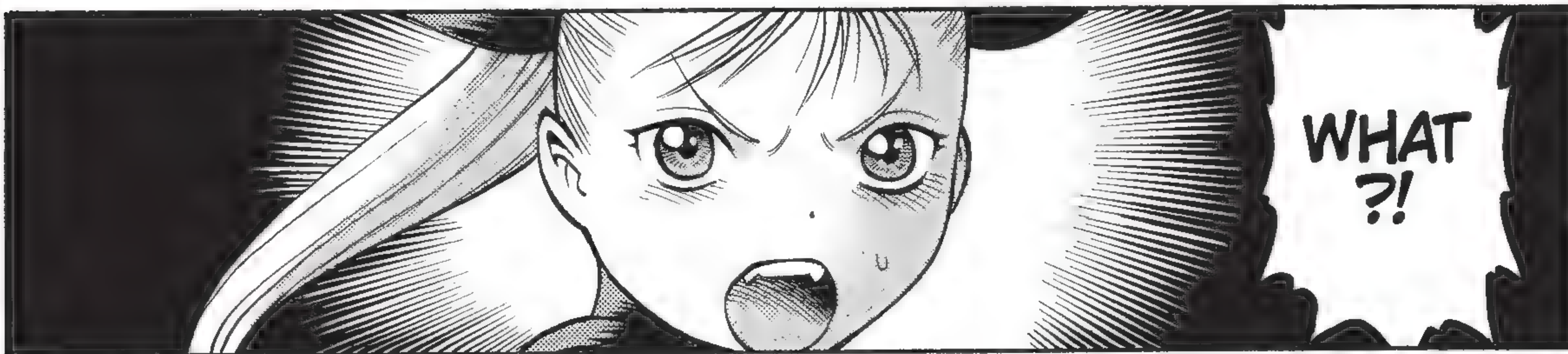


AND WE SHALL INJECT YOUR HONORED SCHOOL FRIEND WITH IT.



THE PIED PIPER.

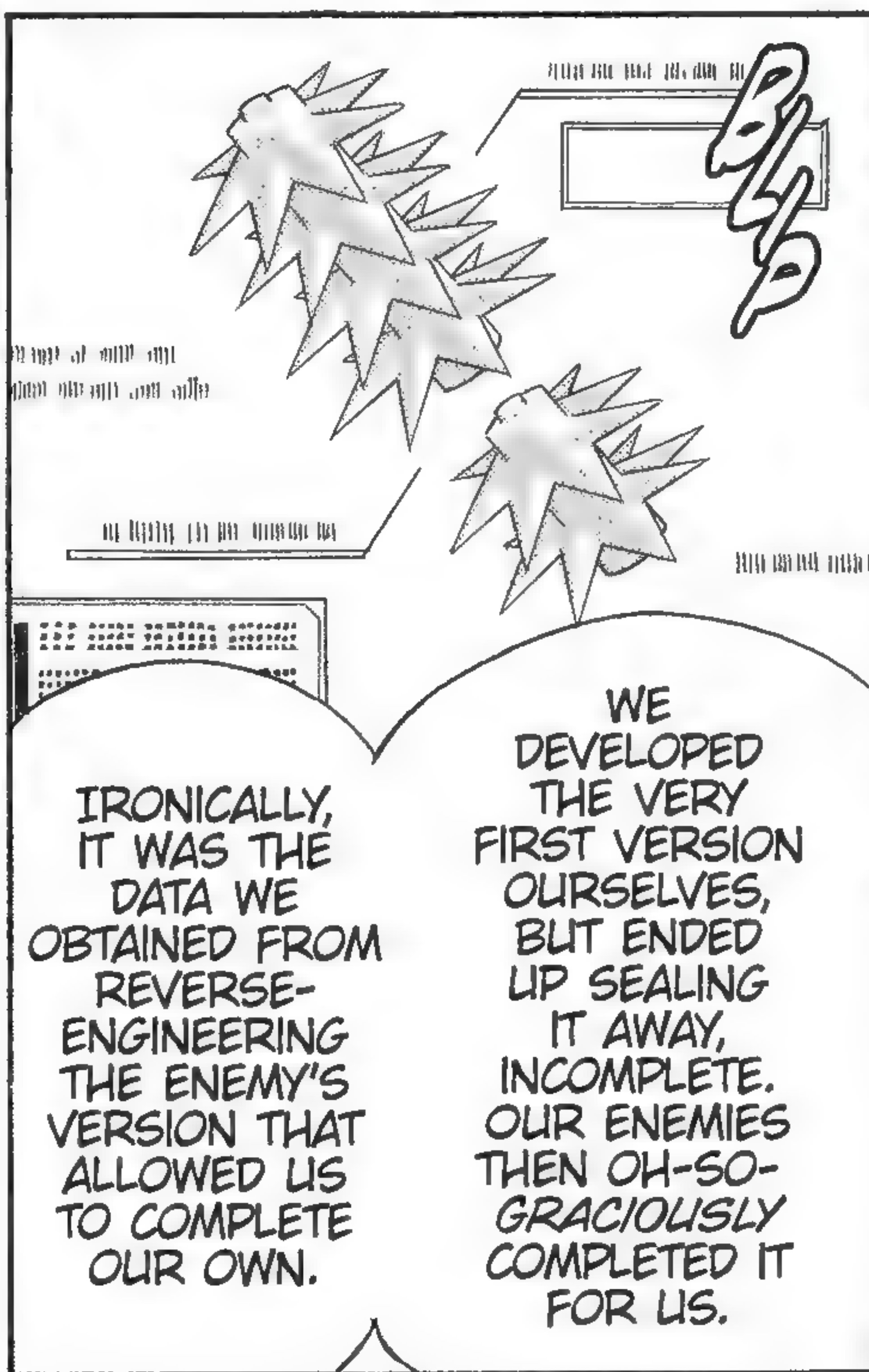
IT IS THE DEVIL'S SEED, A NANO-MACHINE THAT DRIVES ANY VAMPIRE IT INFECTS INSANE.



WHAT ?!



BUT WHAT WOULD BE THE POINT OF INFECTING YUKI WITH IT?



IRONICALLY, IT WAS THE DATA WE OBTAINED FROM REVERSE-ENGINEERING THE ENEMY'S VERSION THAT ALLOWED US TO COMPLETE OUR OWN.

WE DEVELOPED THE VERY FIRST VERSION OURSELVES, BUT ENDED UP SEALING IT AWAY, INCOMPLETE. OUR ENEMIES THEN OH-SO-GRACIOUSLY COMPLETED IT FOR US.



DO NOT WORRY, YOUR MAJESTY.

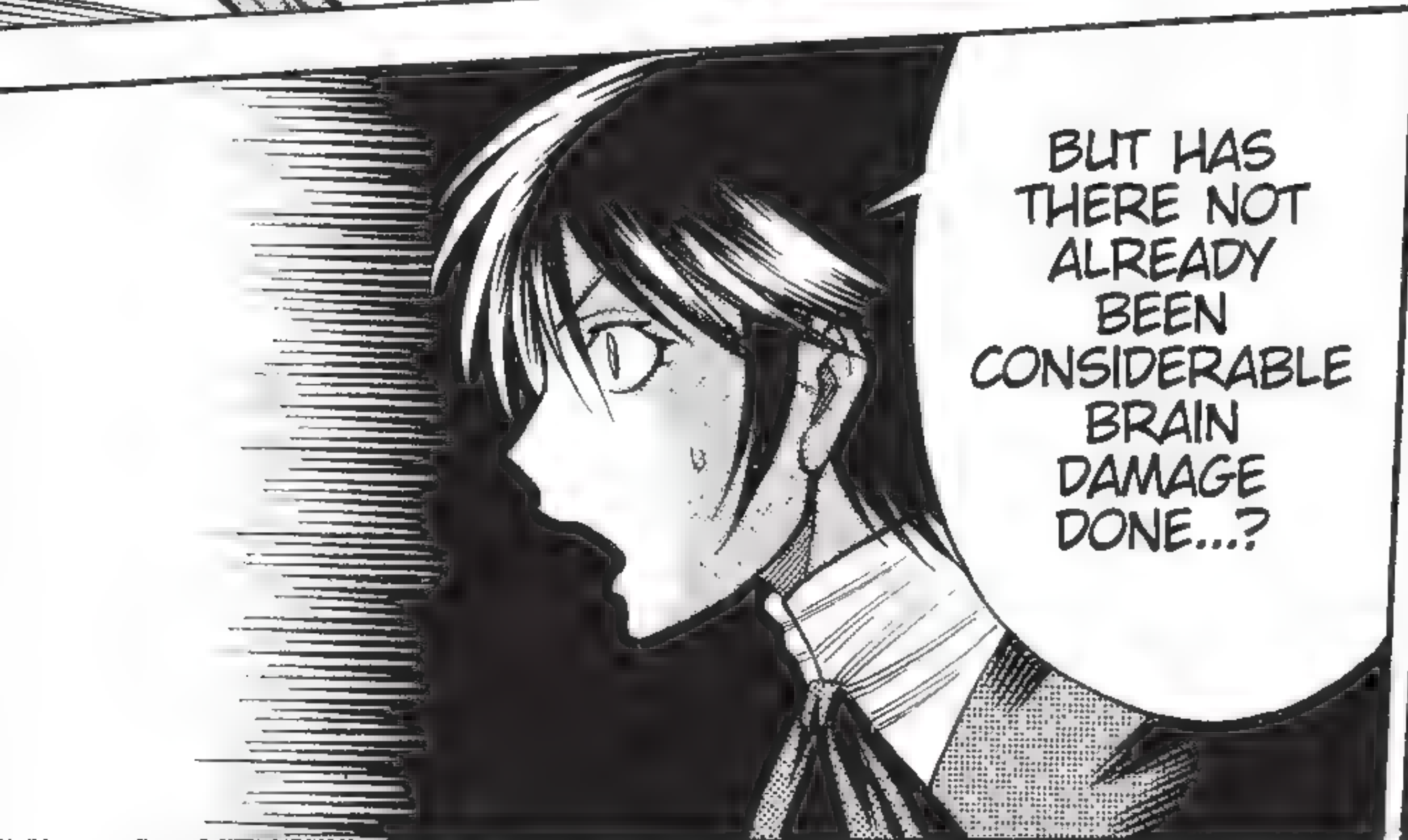
THE PIED PIPER AS IT WAS MEANT TO BE, SO TO SPEAK.

THIS PARTICULAR STRAIN IS A TEPES FAMILY ORIGINAL.



THEY
CAN
SAVE
HER
...?!

USING
THEM
WILL
HEAL
YUKI?!



BUT HAS
THERE NOT
ALREADY
BEEN
CONSIDERABLE
BRAIN
DAMAGE
DONE...?

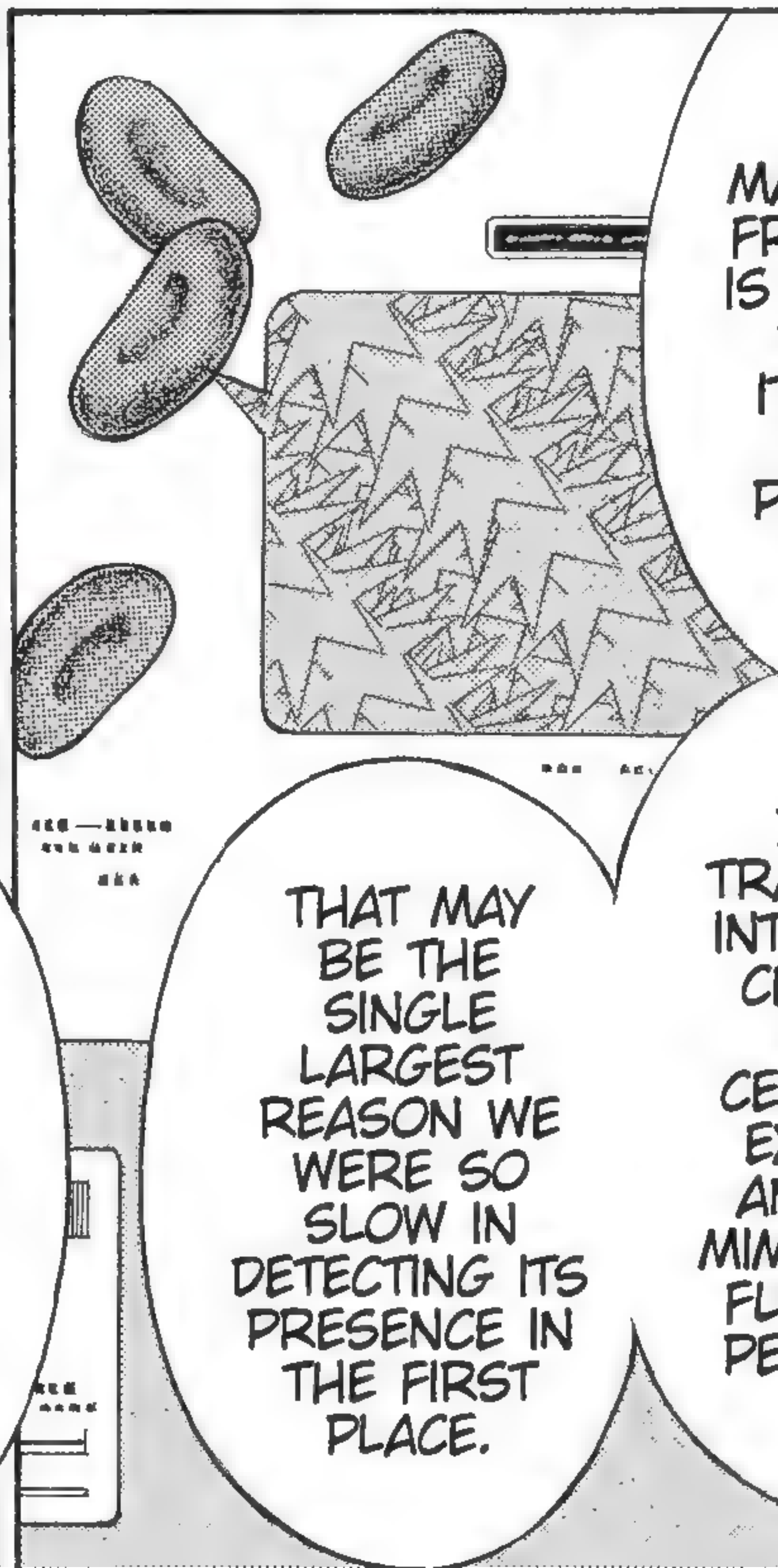


THEY CAN BE
REPROGRAMMED
TO CREATE
MULTIPLE
MICROSCOPIC
CATHETERS WITHIN
HER BRAIN,
WHICH CAN,
IN THEORY,
SAFELY DRAIN THE
HEMATOMA.

THAT WAY,
THE
PRESSURE
COULD BE
RELIEVED
WITHOUT THE
NEED TO
RESORT TO
SURGERY
AT ALL.



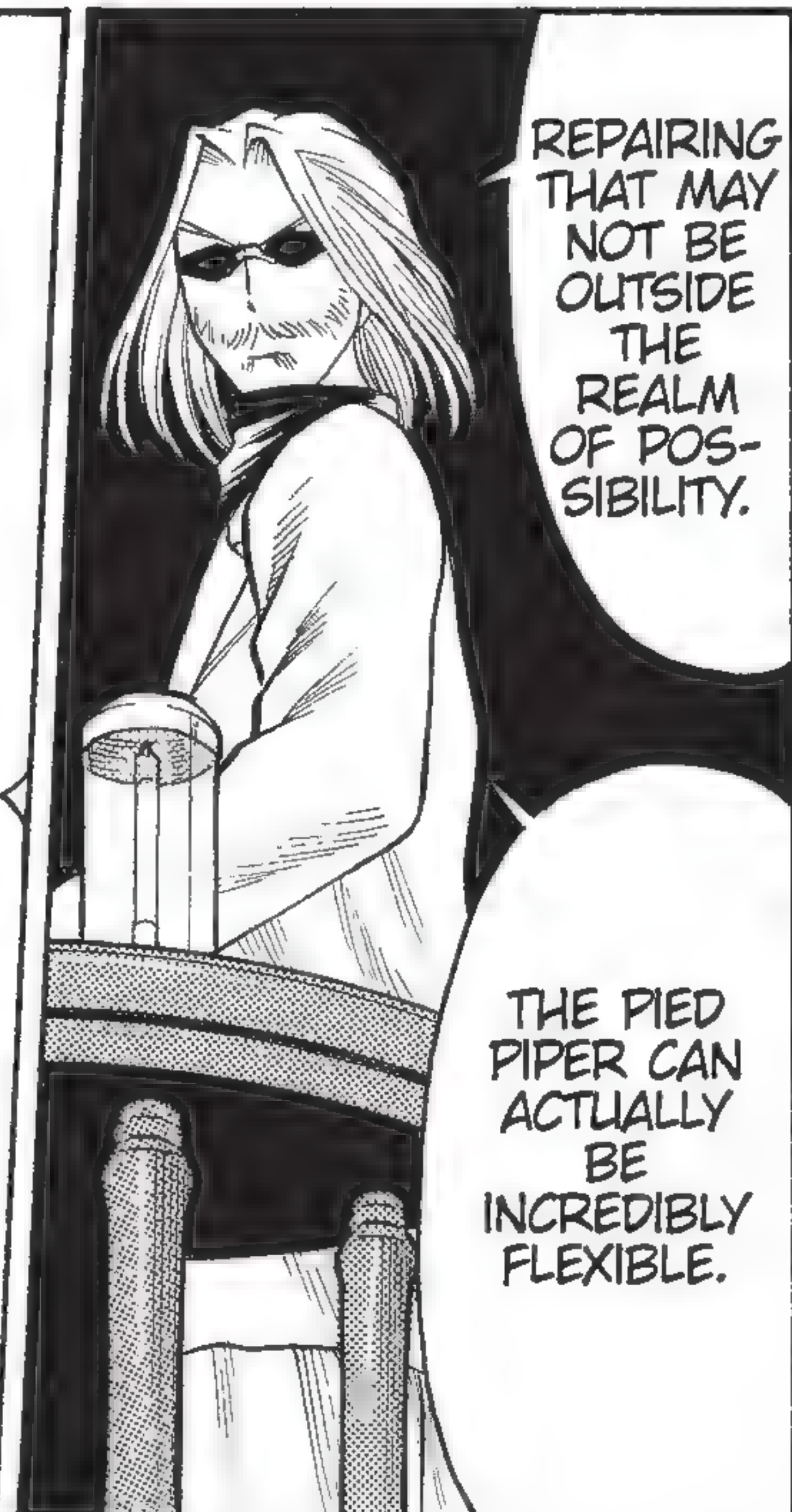
BUT IN
THIS CASE,
IT GIVES US THE
PERFECT TOOL.
WE CAN
PROGRAM IT TO
REPAIR OR EVEN
REPLACE THE
DAMAGED
PORTIONS OF
YOUR FRIEND'S
BRAIN.



THAT MAY
BE THE
SINGLE
LARGEST
REASON WE
WERE SO
SLOW IN
DETECTING ITS
PRESENCE IN
THE FIRST
PLACE.

WHAT
MAKES IT SO
FRIGHTENING
IS ITS ABILITY
TO MIMIC
ITS HOST'S
ORIGINAL
PARTS AND
ORGANS.

IT CAN
TRANSFORM
INTO BLOOD
CELLS OR
NERVE
CELLS, FOR
EXAMPLE,
AND THEN
MIMIC THOSE
FUNCTIONS
PERFECTLY.

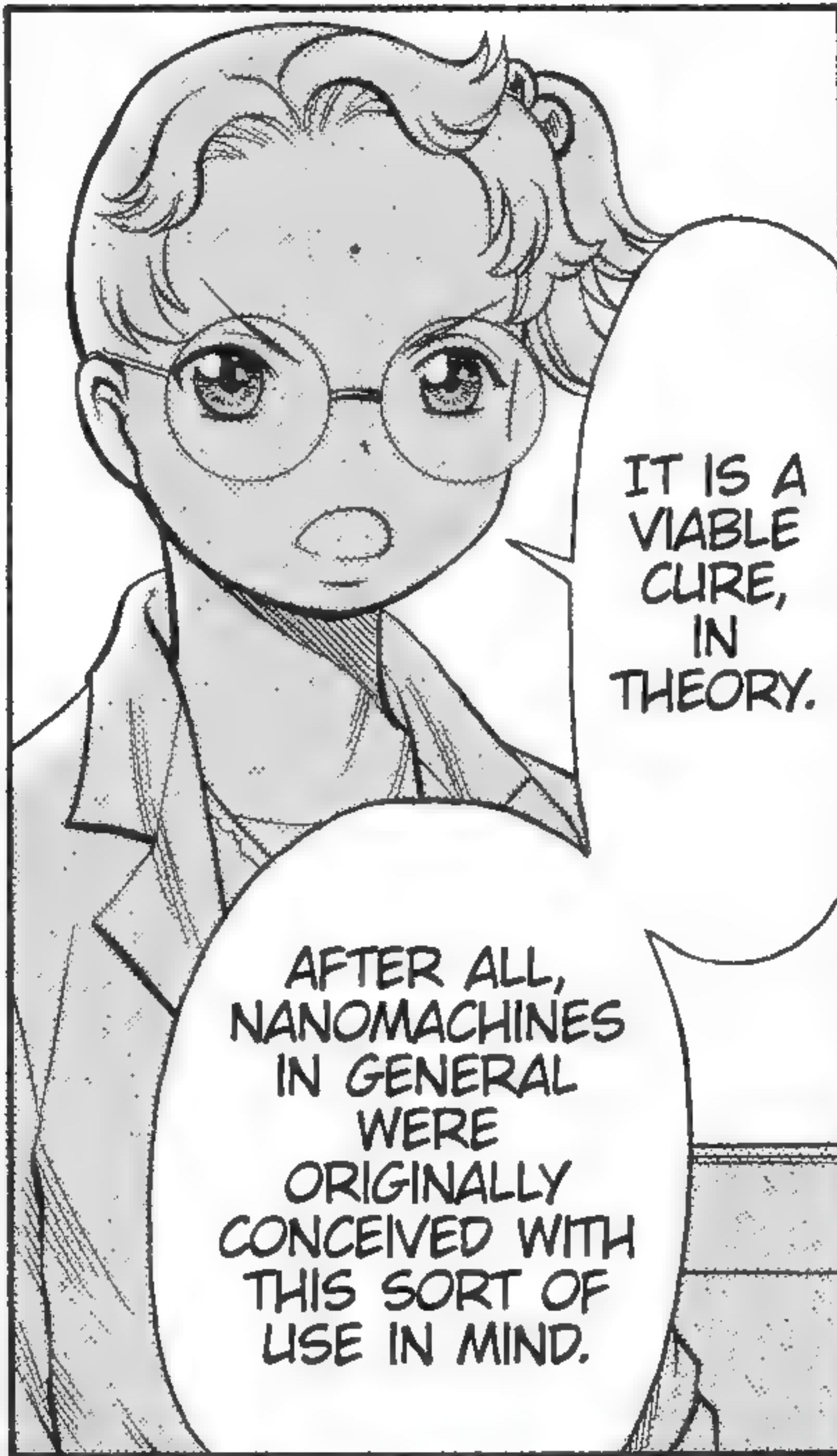


REPAIRING
THAT MAY
NOT BE
OUTSIDE
THE
REALM
OF POS-
SIBILITY.

THE PIED
PIPER CAN
ACTUALLY
BE
INCREDIBLY
FLEXIBLE.



SHE...
SHE
CAN BE
SAVED
....!

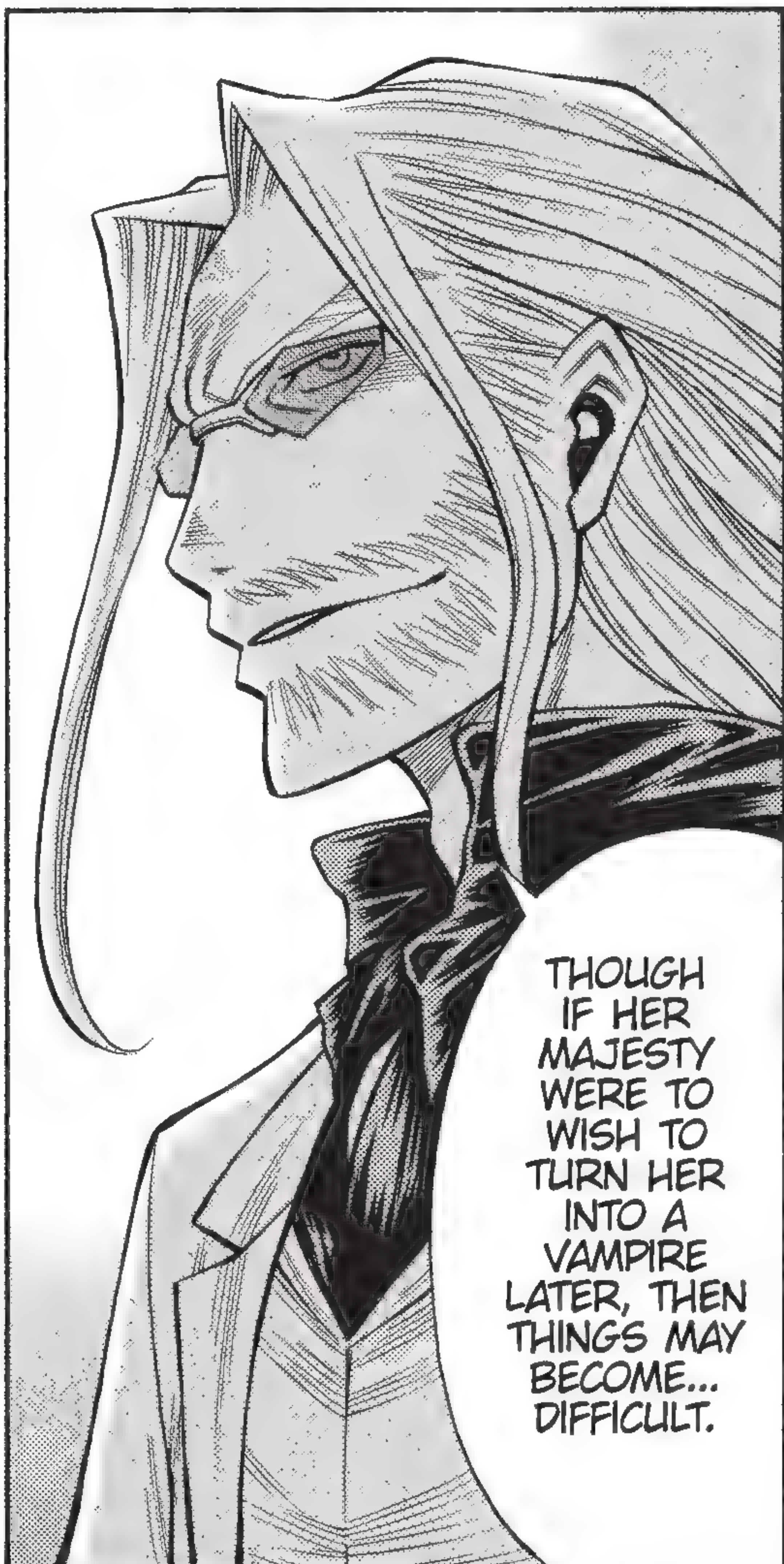


IT IS A
VIABLE
CURE,
IN
THEORY.

AFTER ALL,
NANOMACHINES
IN GENERAL
WERE
ORIGINALLY
CONCEIVED WITH
THIS SORT OF
USE IN MIND.



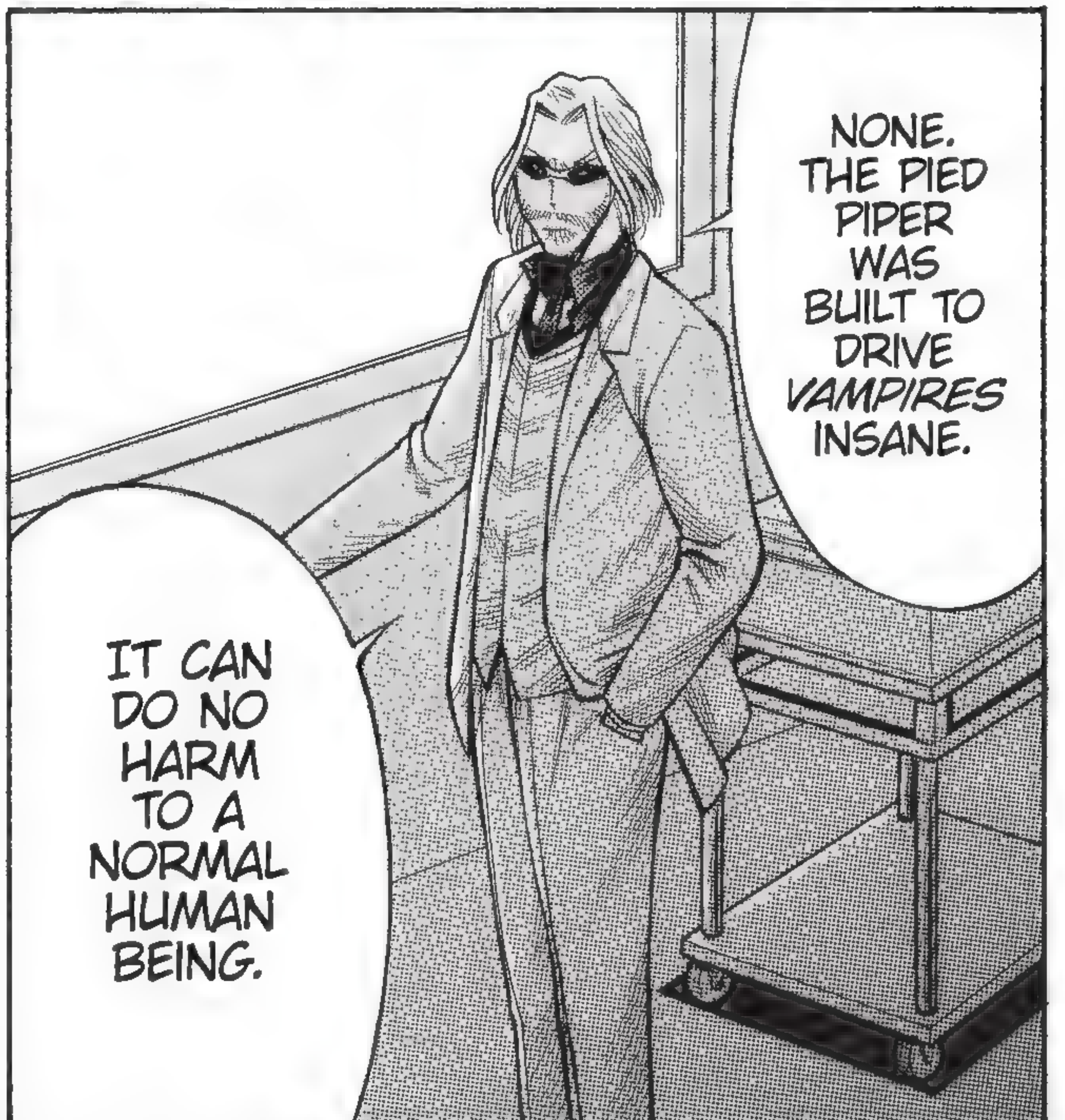
DOCTOR
?



THOUGH
IF HER
MAJESTY
WERE TO
WISH TO
TURN HER
INTO A
VAMPIRE
LATER, THEN
THINGS MAY
BECOME...
DIFFICULT.

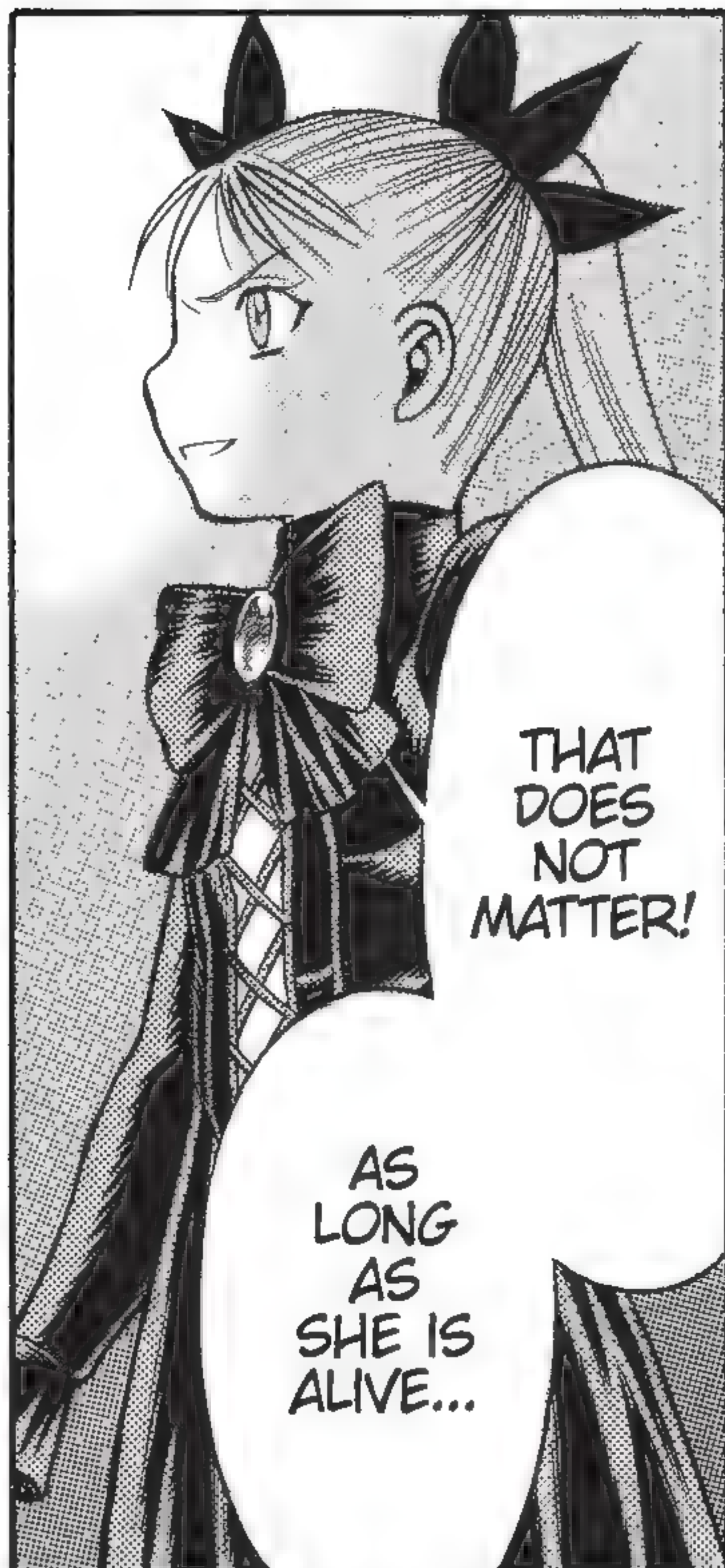


WHAT
POSSIBLE
DAMAGING
SIDE
EFFECTS
COULD IT
HAVE?



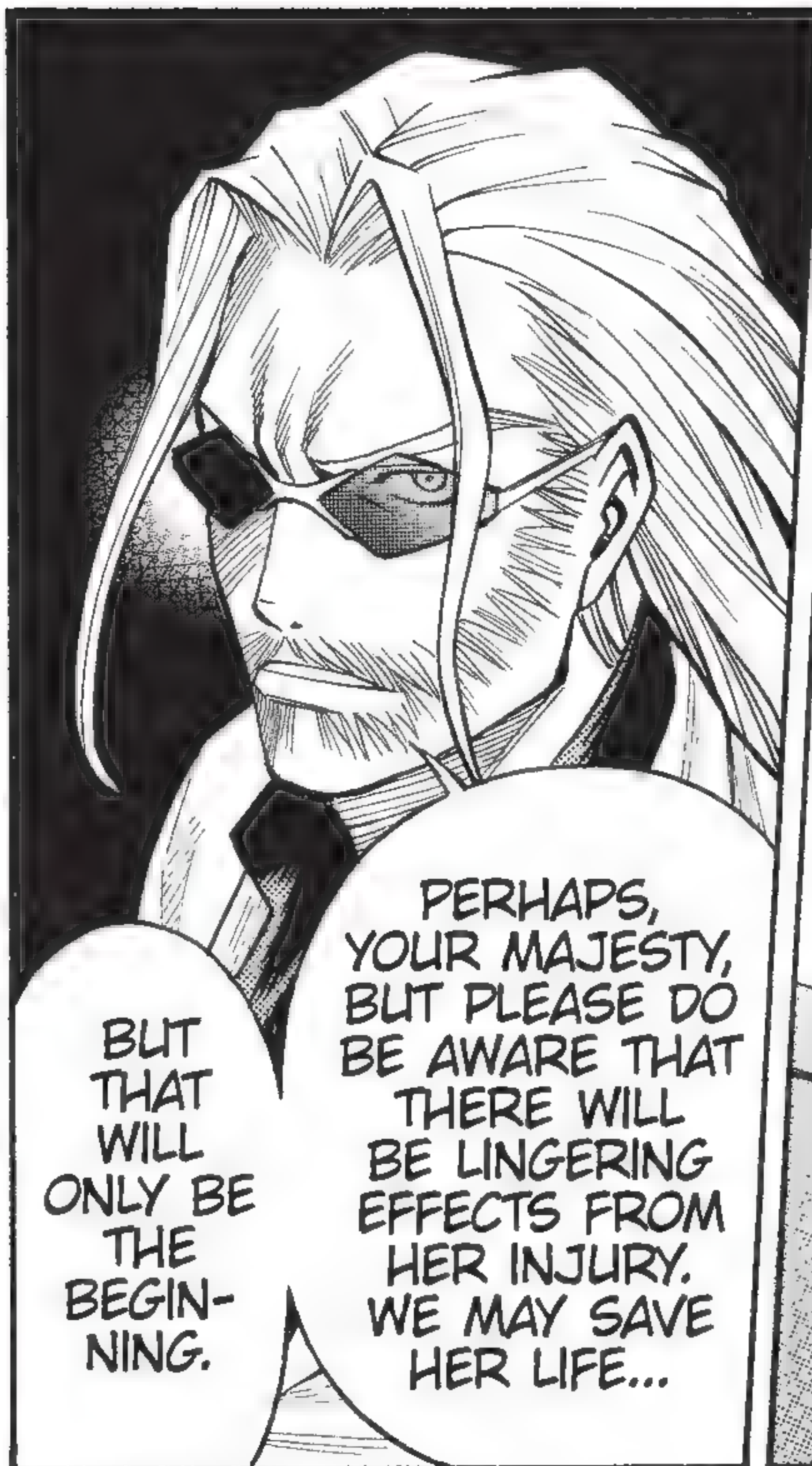
NONE.
THE PIED
PIPER
WAS
BUILT TO
DRIVE
VAMPIRES
INSANE.

IT CAN
DO NO
HARM
TO A
NORMAL
HUMAN
BEING.



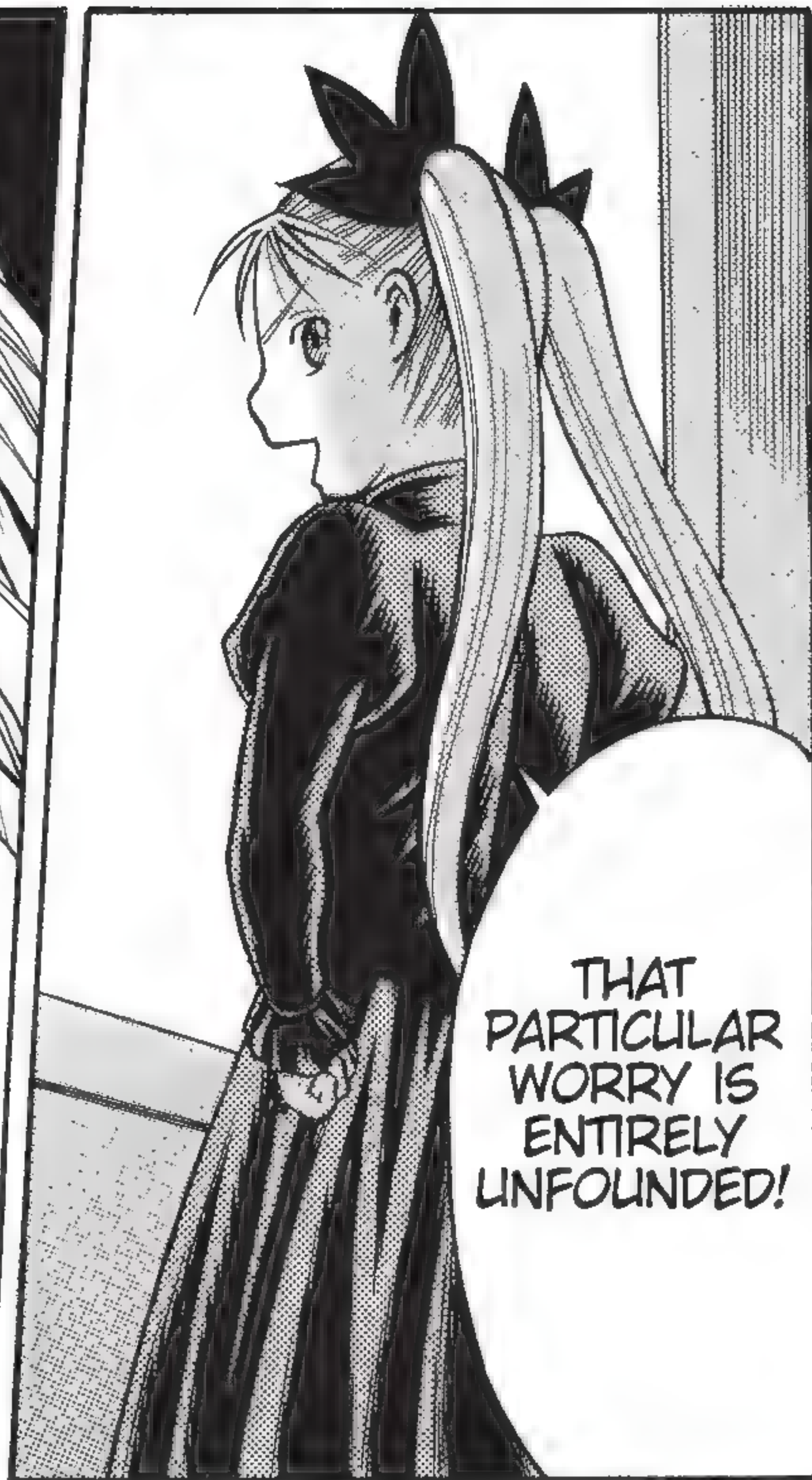
THAT
DOES
NOT
MATTER!

AS
LONG
AS
SHE IS
ALIVE...



BUT
THAT
WILL
ONLY BE
THE
BEGIN-
NING.

PERHAPS,
YOUR MAJESTY,
BUT PLEASE DO
BE AWARE THAT
THERE WILL
BE LINGERING
EFFECTS FROM
HER INJURY.
WE MAY SAVE
HER LIFE...



THAT
PARTICULAR
WORRY IS
ENTIRELY
UNFOUNDED!



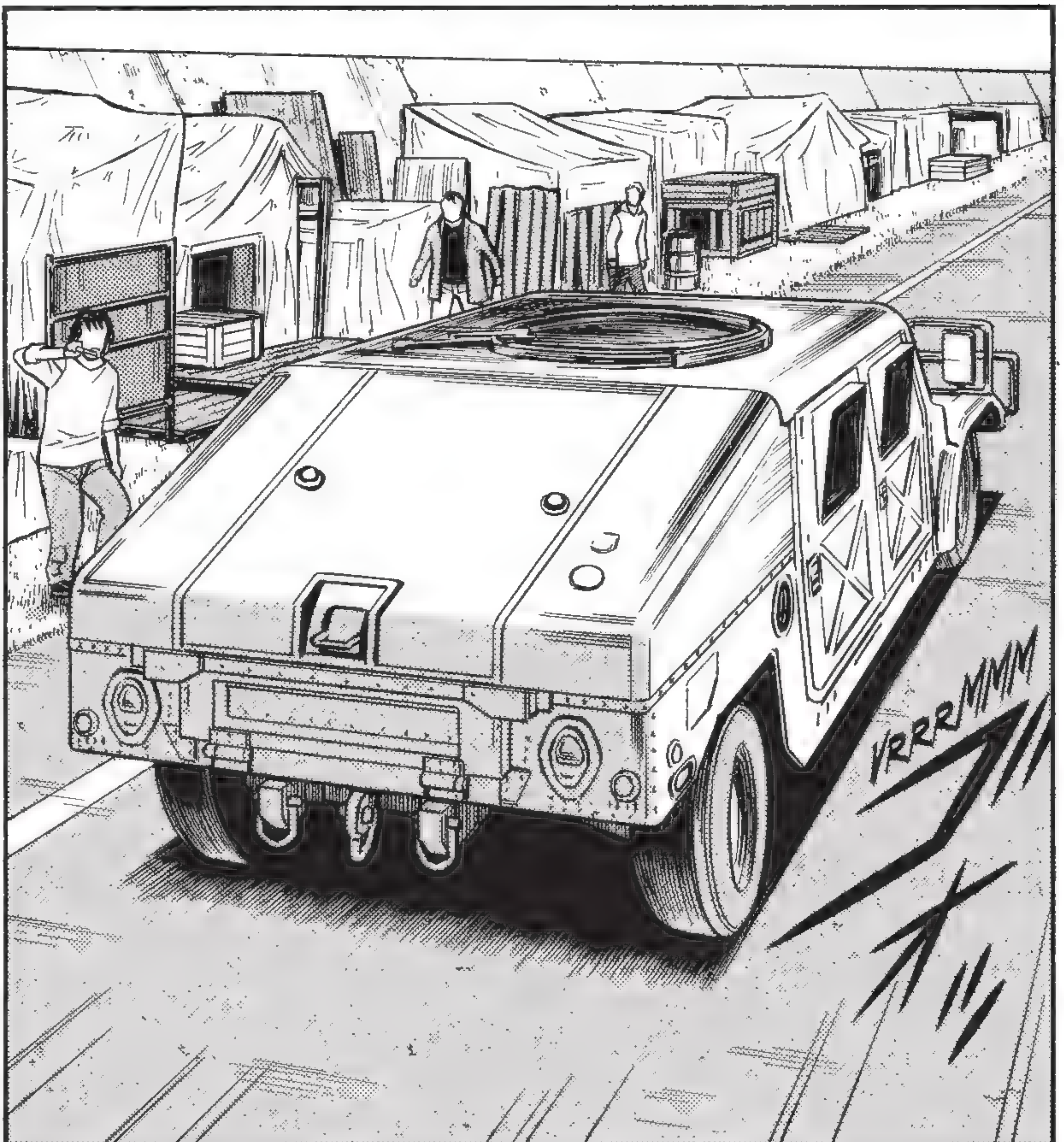
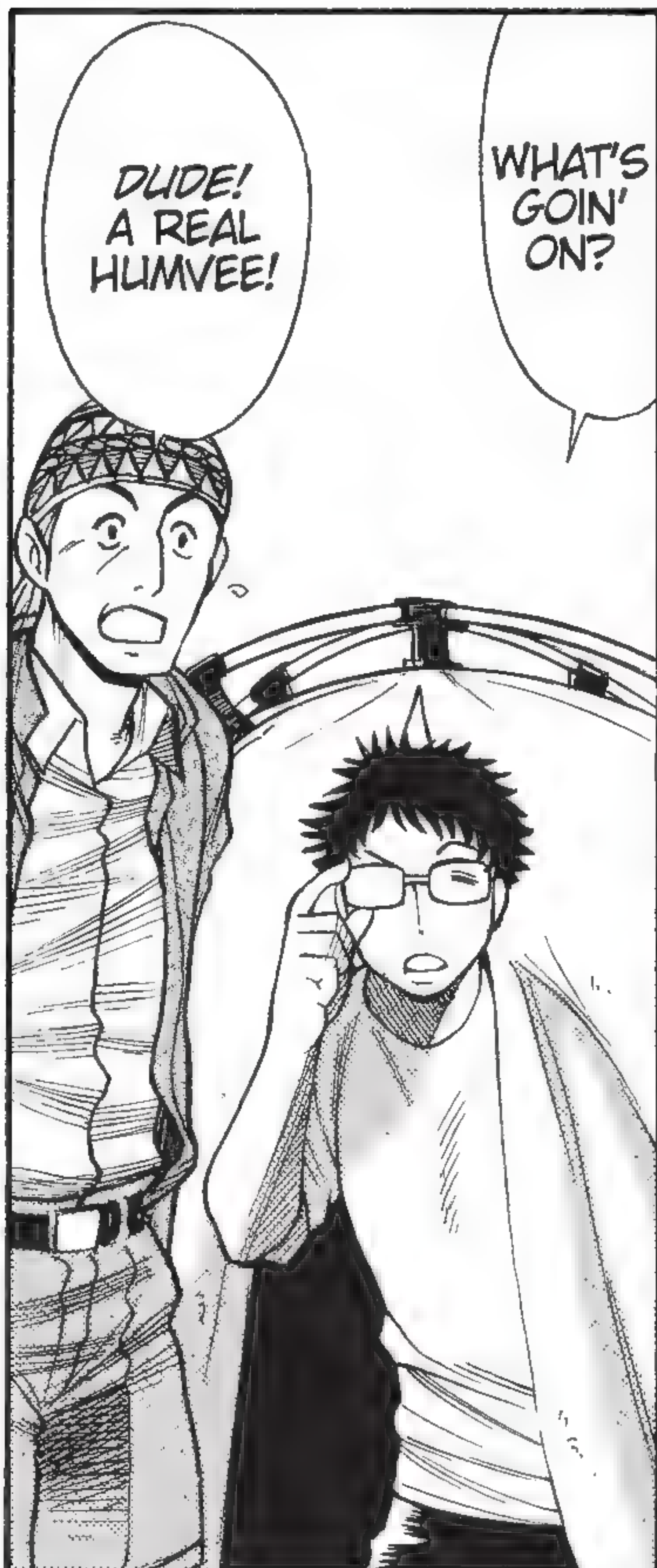
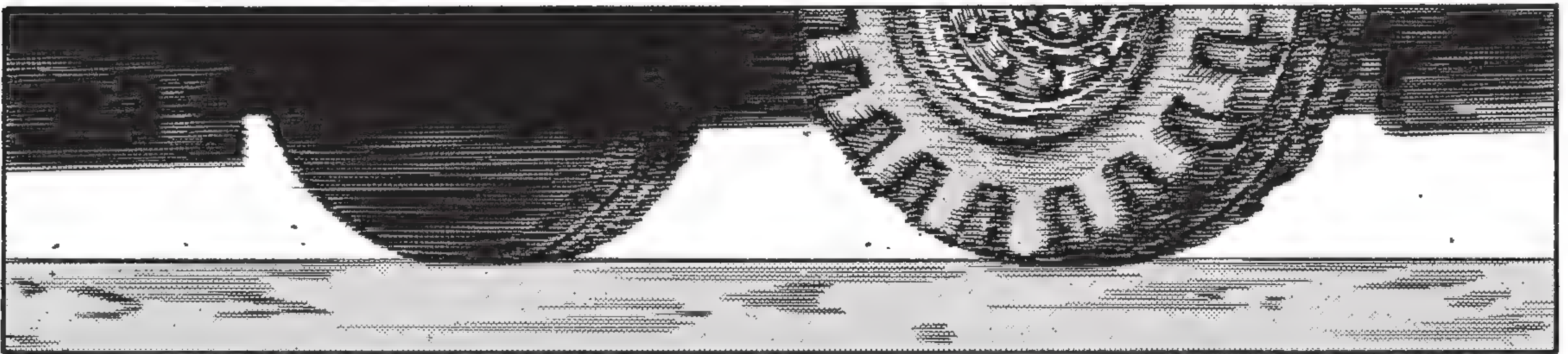
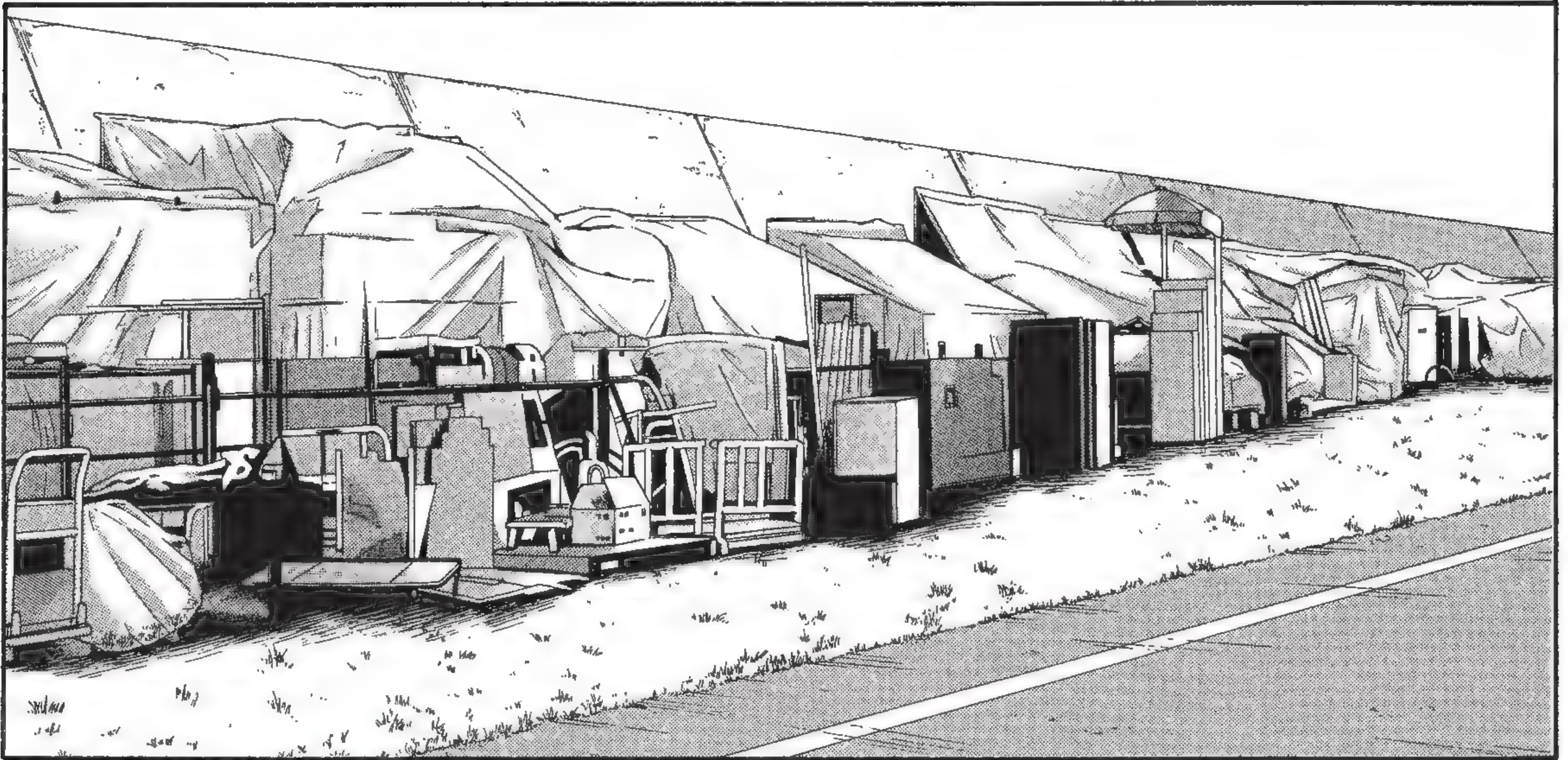
HEH
HEH
...

THAT'S THE
PRINCESS I
REMEMBER.

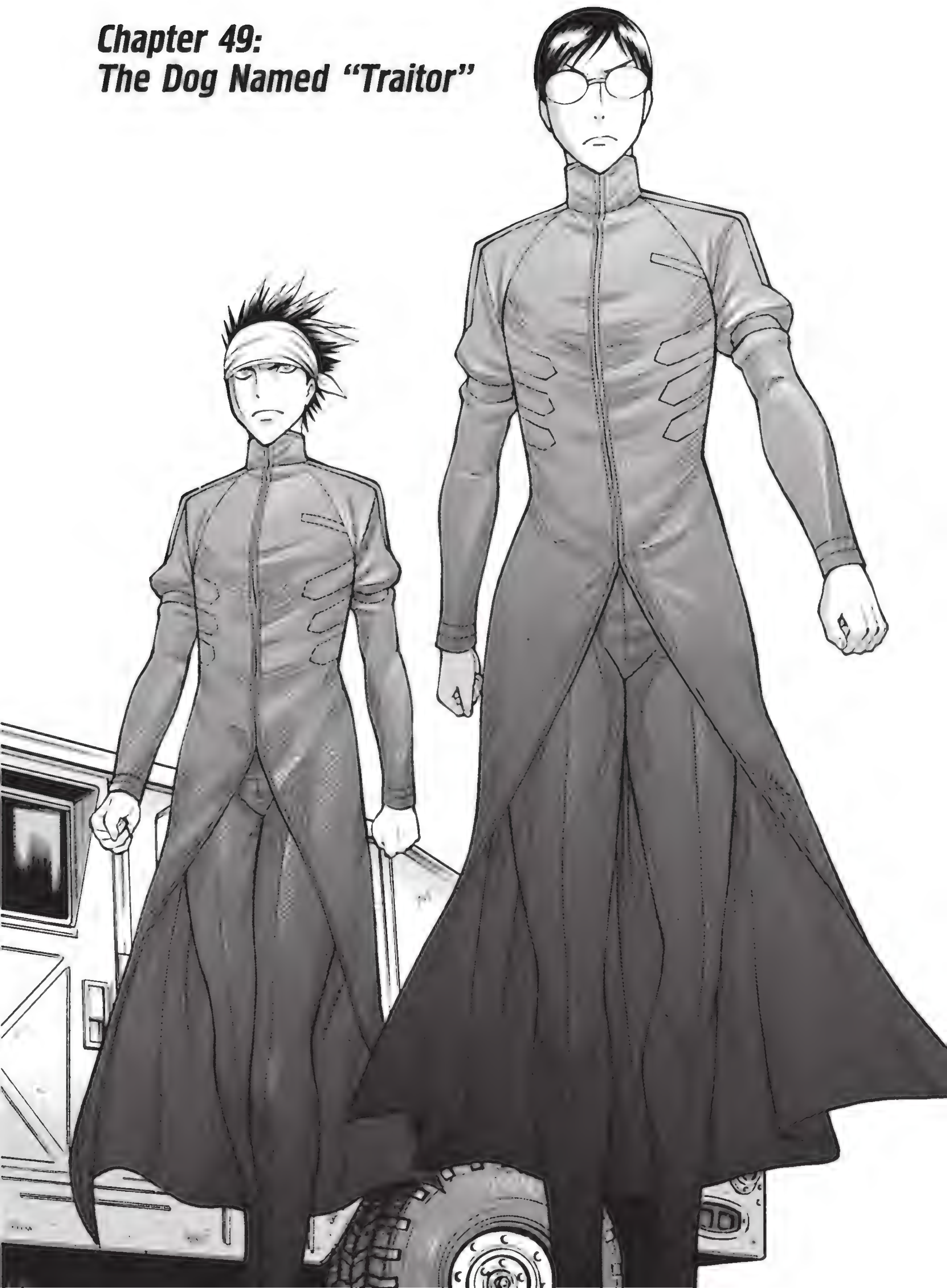


I CAN USE
THE FULL
EXTENT OF
MY POWER TO
HEAL HER.
I WILL
BRING THE
OLD YUKI
BACK...
I SWEAR
IT!





Chapter 49:
The Dog Named “Traitor”





'SCUZE ME, GUYS. WE NEED TO SEARCH YOUR TENTS.

HUH?



BUT THEY'RE HUMAN.

MORON! THEY DON'T ALWAYS GO AROUND IN WOLF FORM!

HOLY SHIT! BEO-WULF!

HUH?



IF YOU'RE DOING A SEARCH, YOU NEED A WARRANT, RIGHT? LEMME SEE IT!!

WHAT GIVES YOU THE RIGHT TO JUST BARGE IN HERE?!



WE HAVE NO NEED OF ANY WARRANT.

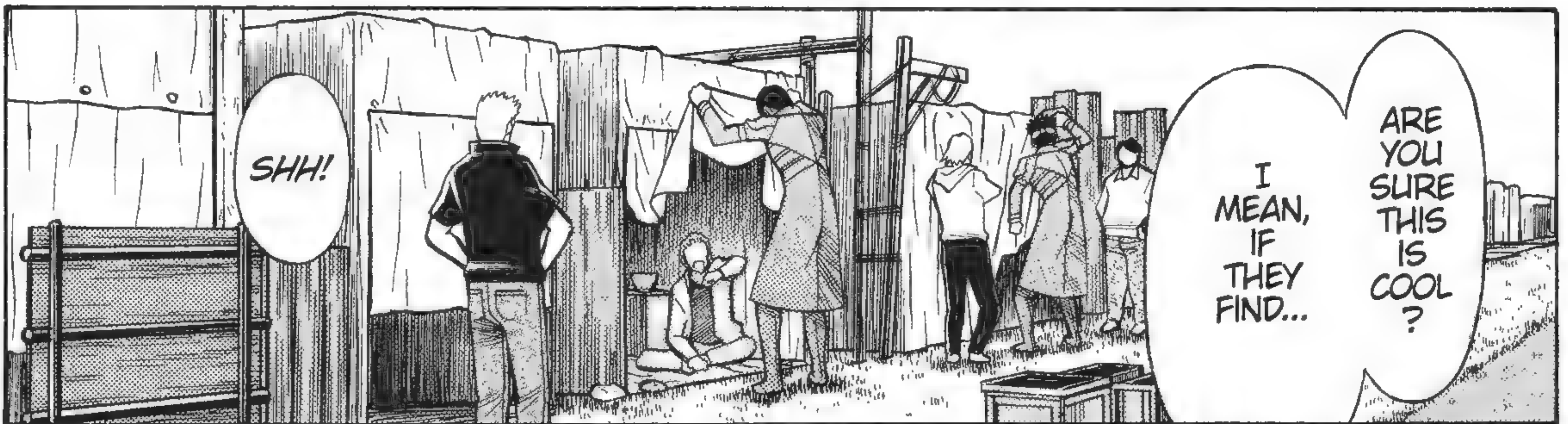
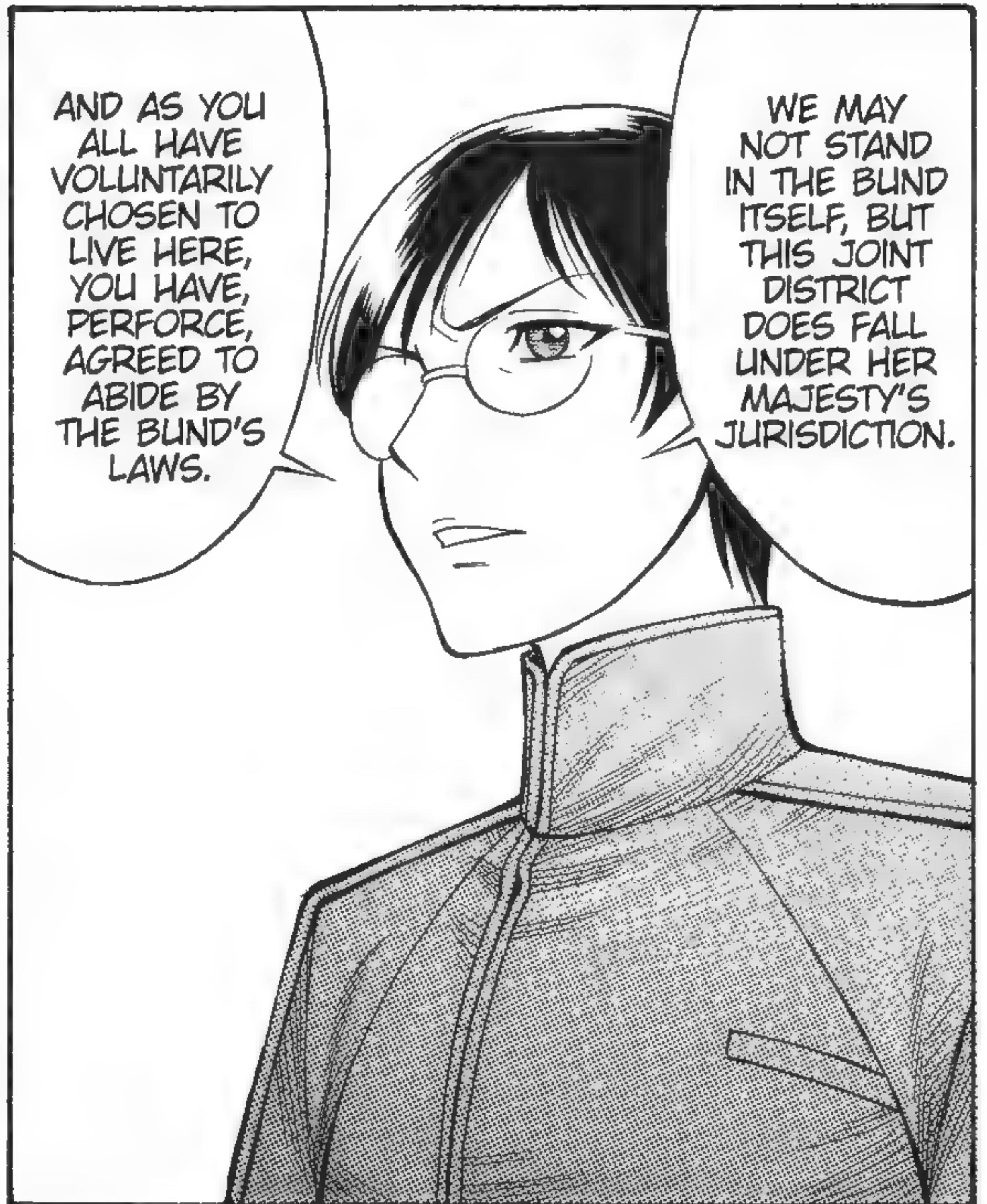
THIS SEARCH WAS ORDERED BY HER MAJESTY THE PRINCESS HERSELF, AND IN OUR KINGDOM, THE WILL OF THE PRINCESS IS LAW.

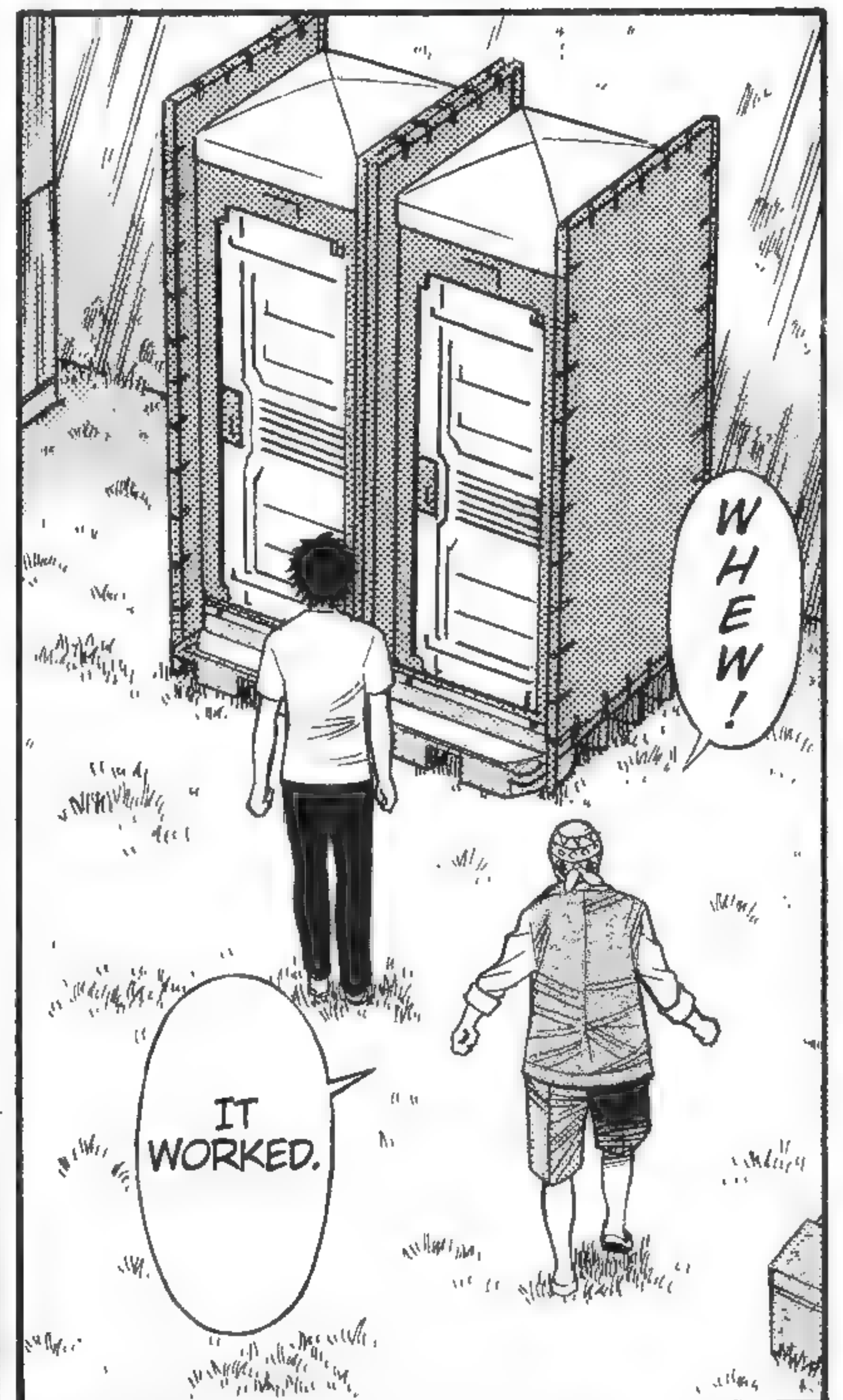
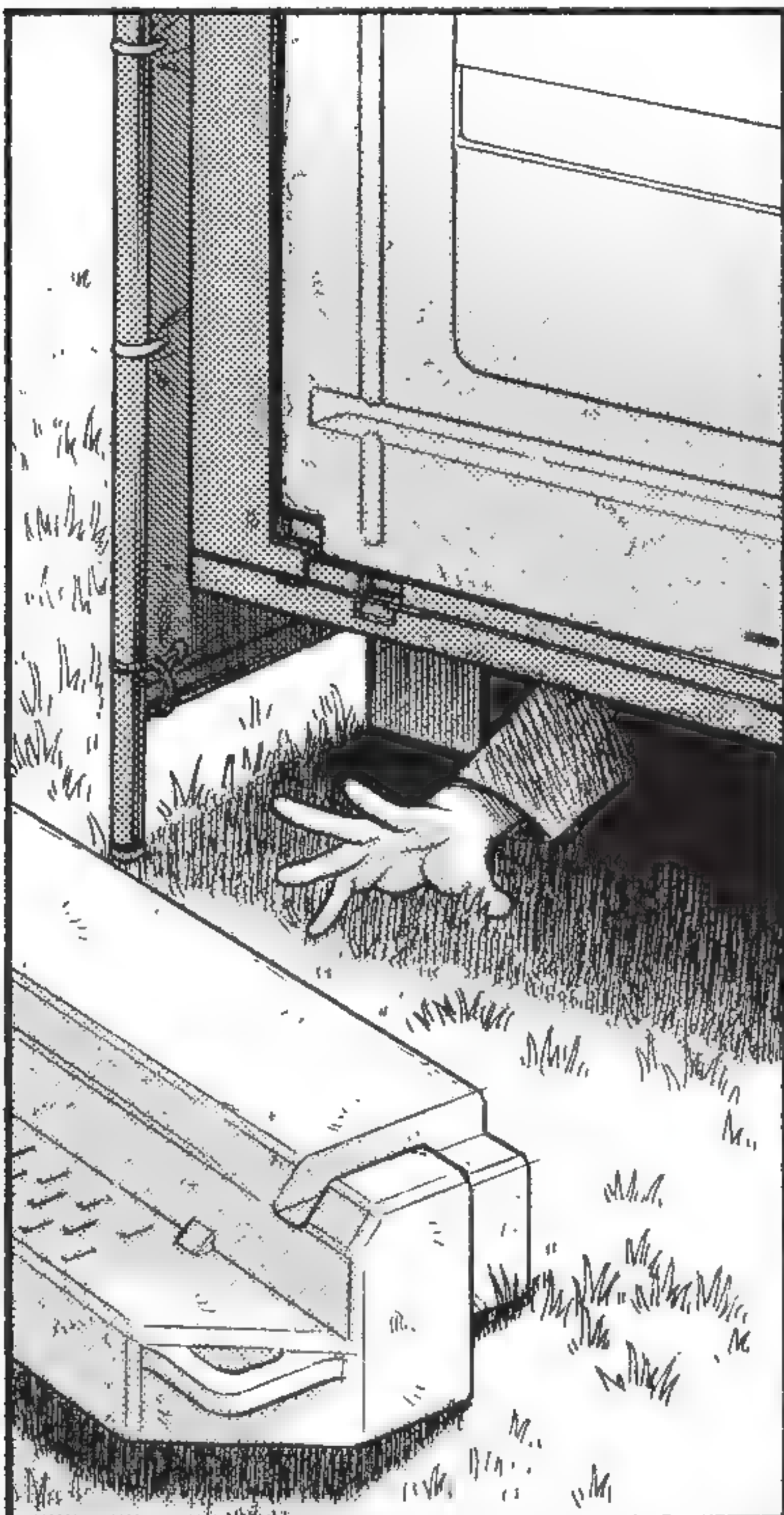
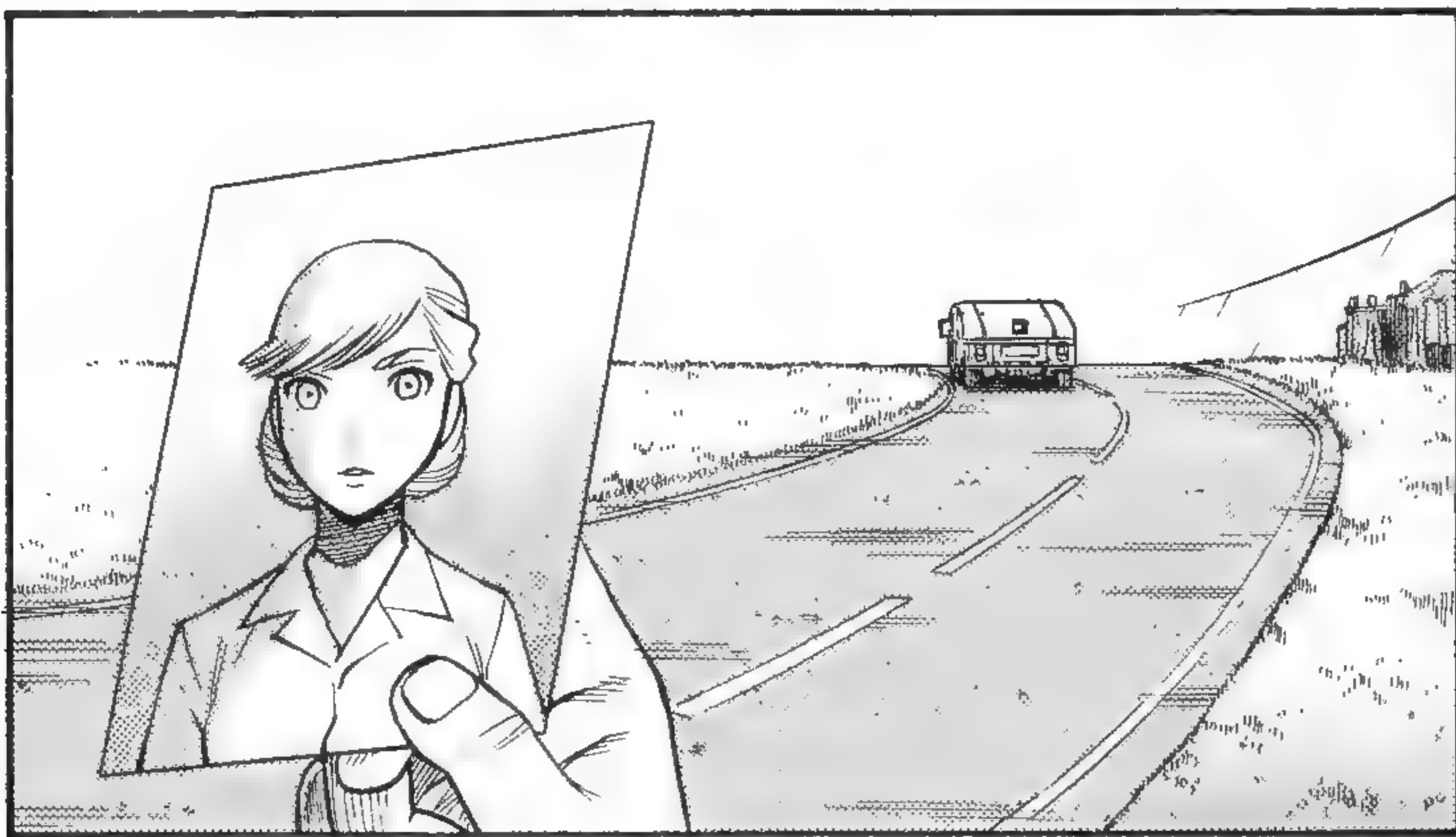
WHA...?

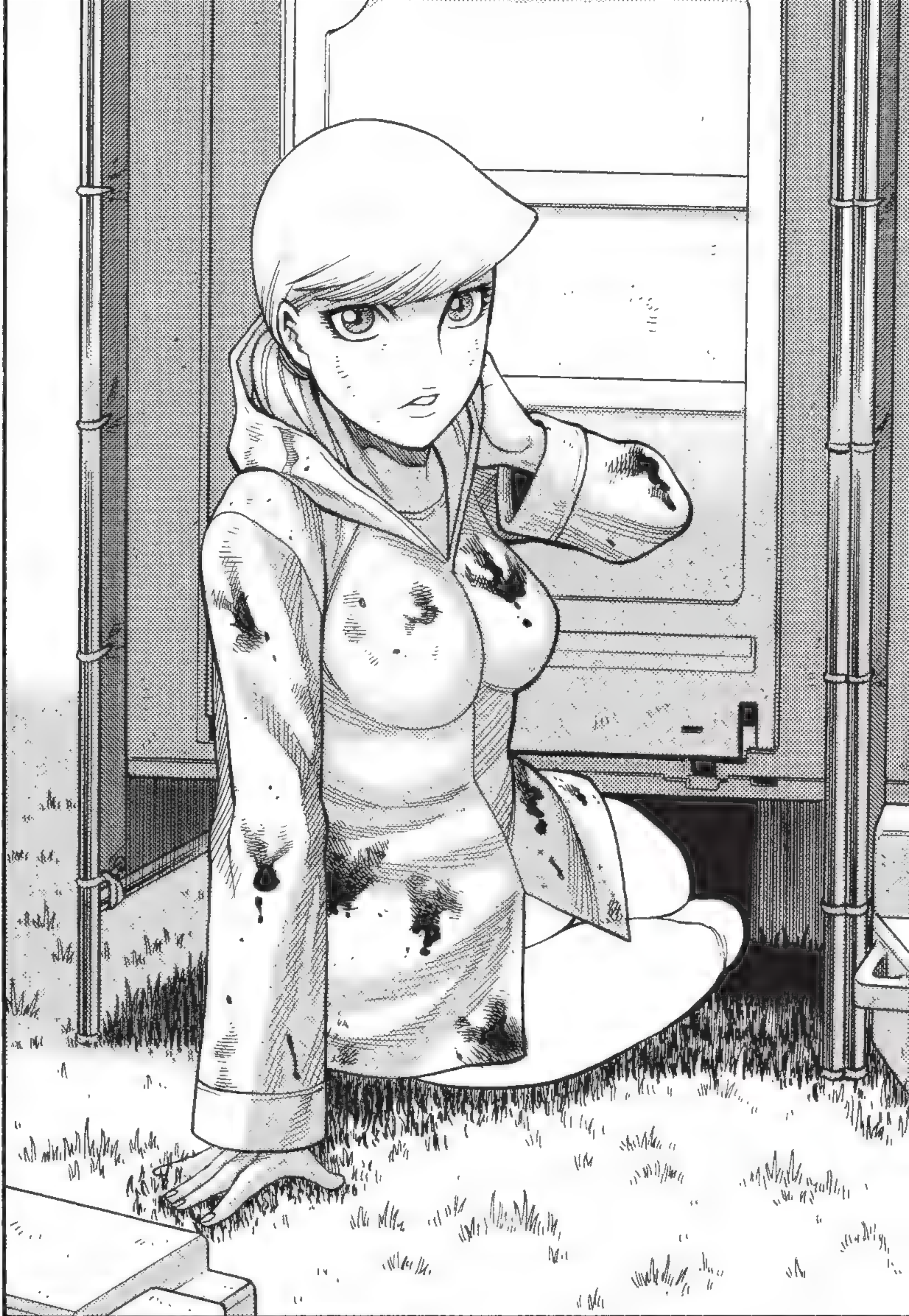


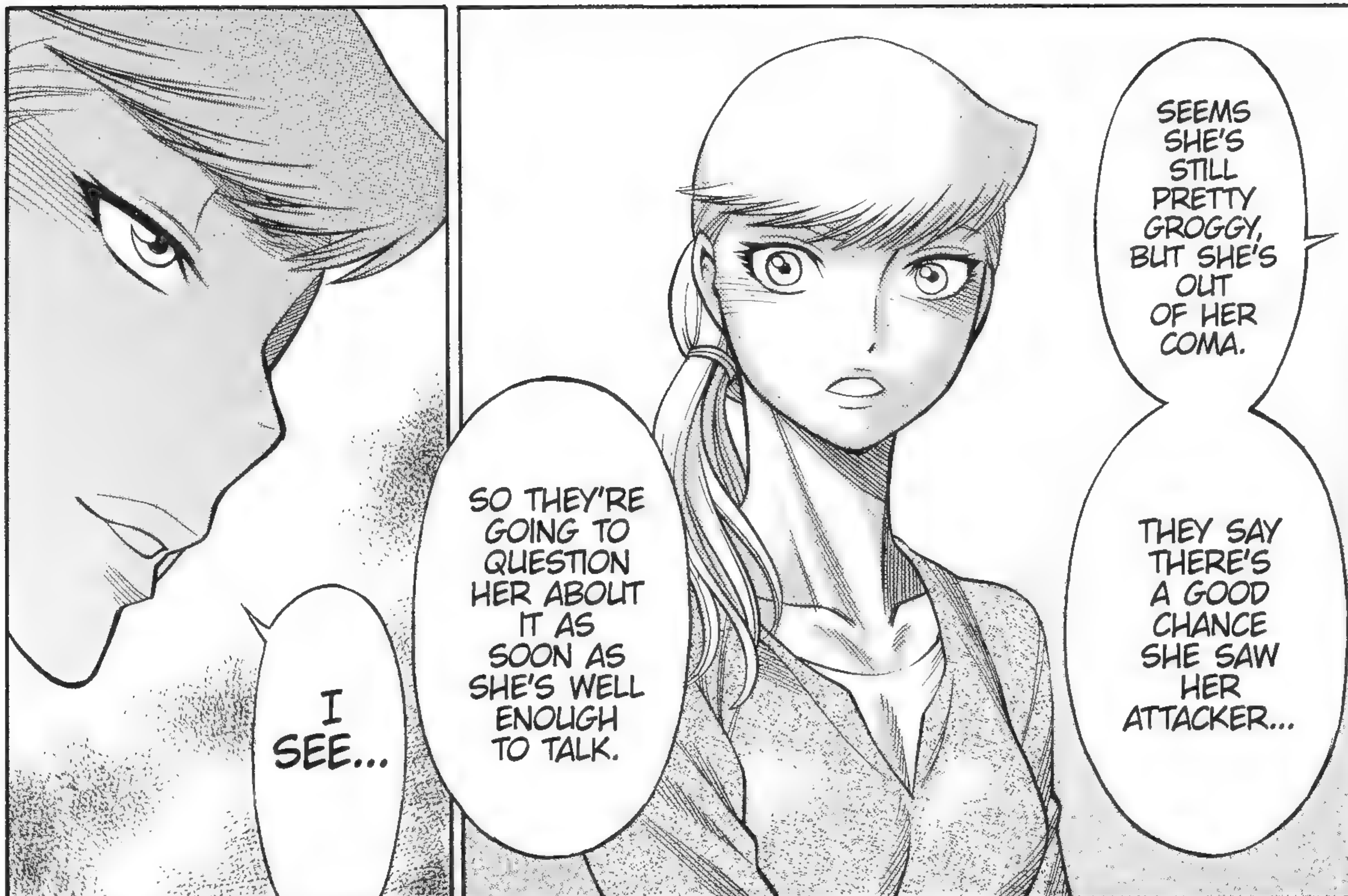
WAIT A MINUTE! WHY DO YOU NEED TO DO THAT?!

WE ARE SEARCHING FOR A SUSPECT IN LAST NIGHT'S ATTACK ON THE RESEARCH FACILITY. YOUR COOPERATION IS REQUIRED.

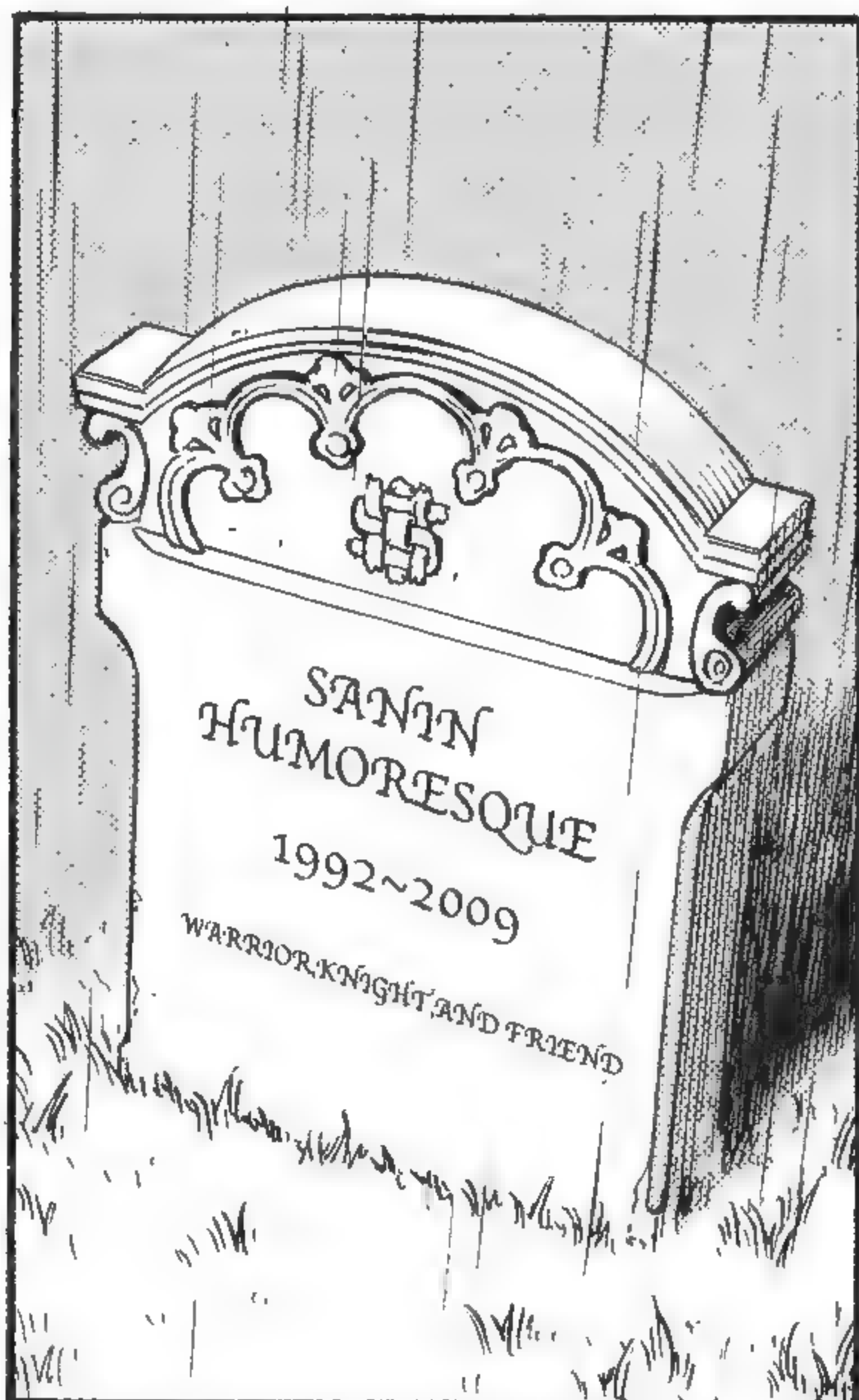


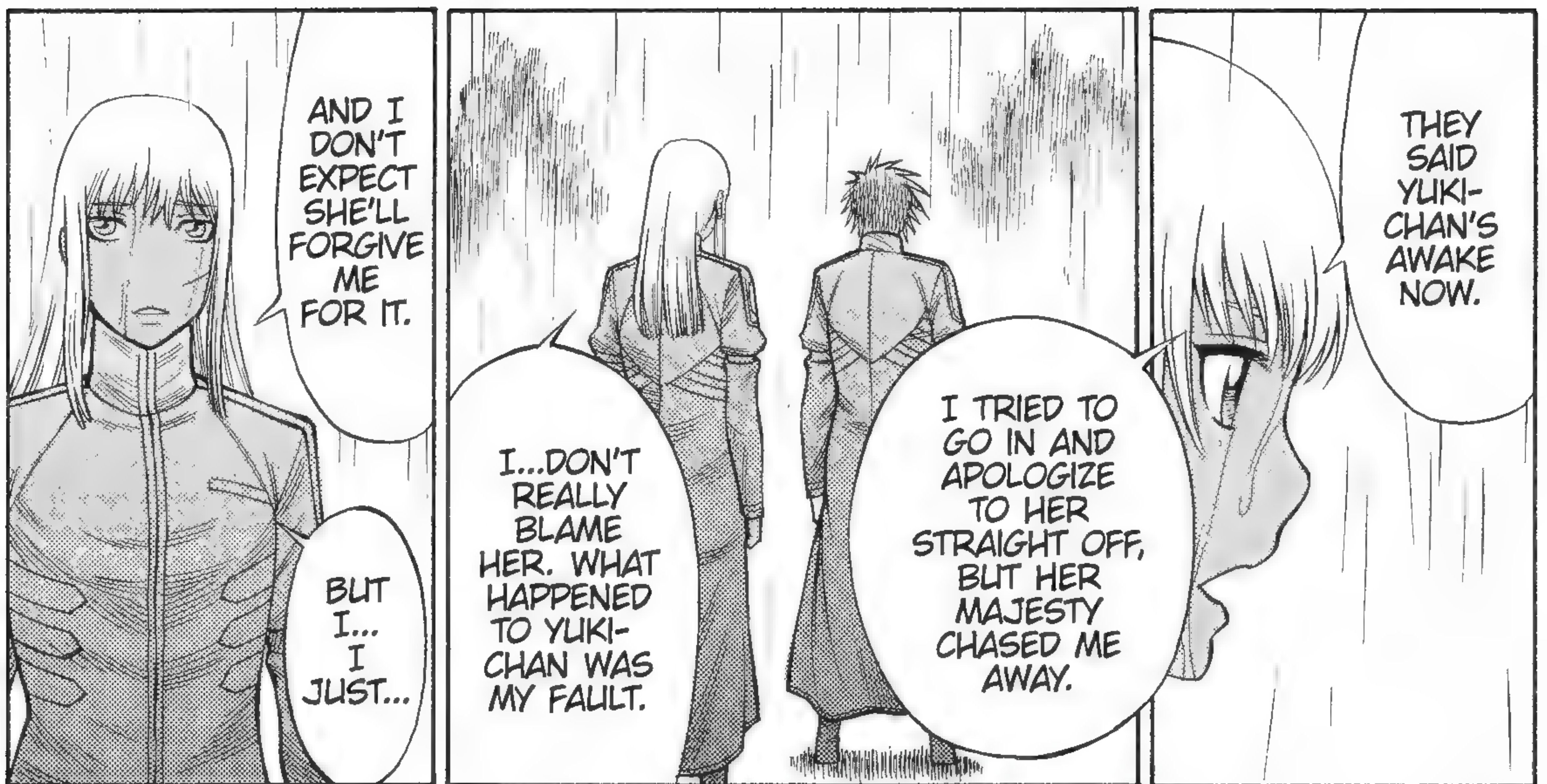














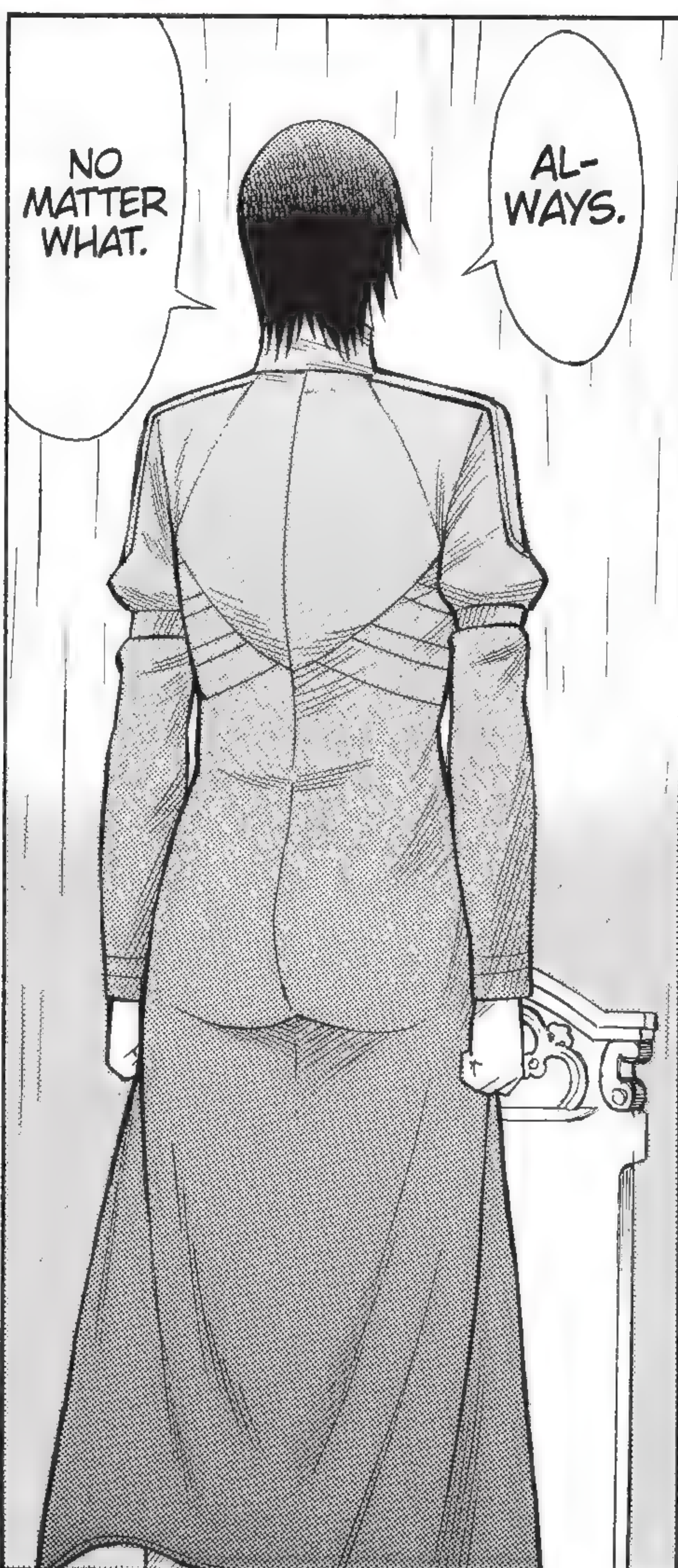
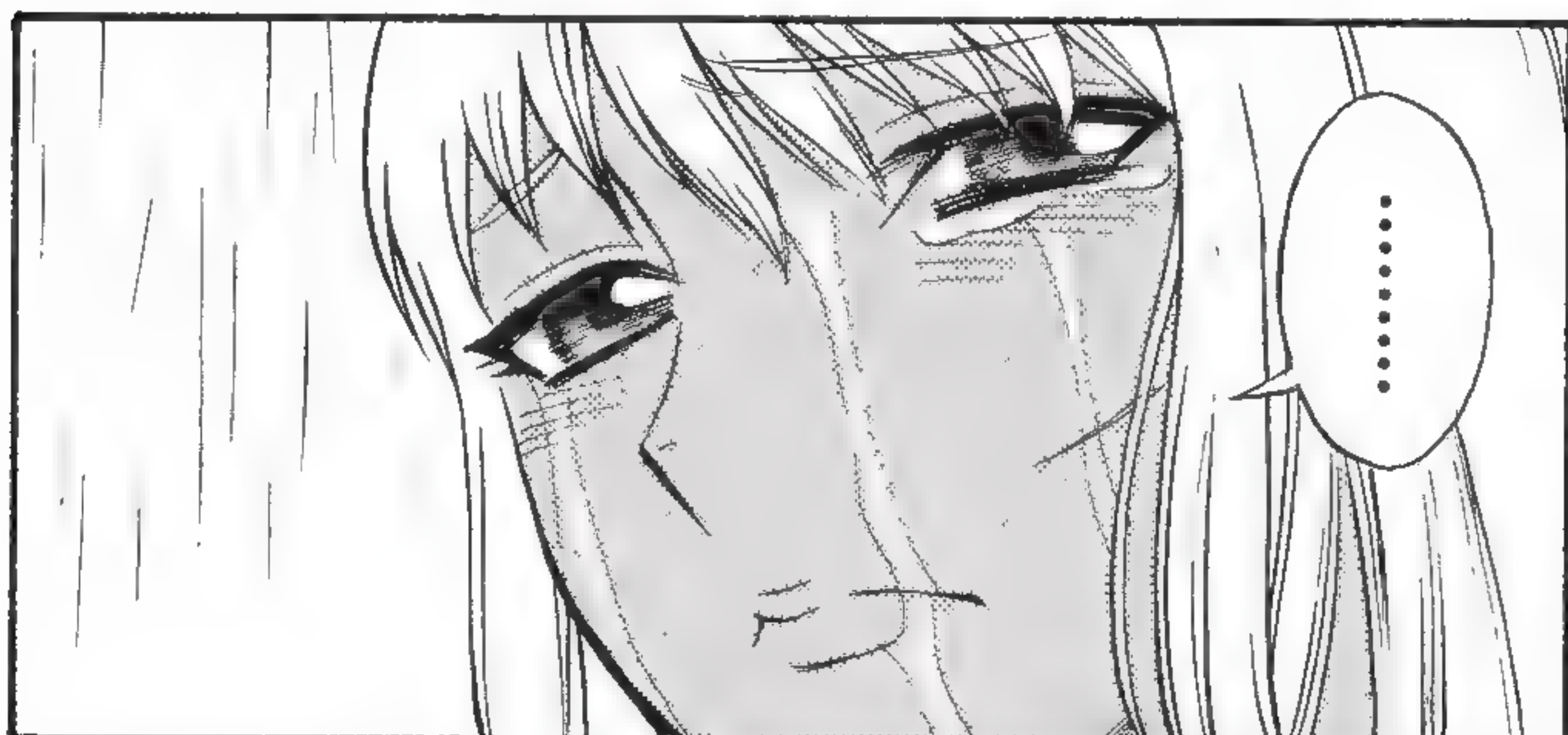
YOU
STILL
THINK OF
ME AS A
FRIEND?



YOU'RE
THE ONLY
FRIEND I'VE
GOT LEFT.
I DON'T
WANT TO
LOSE YOU
TOO.

DON'T DO
ANYTHING
DUMB,
OKAY?

YOU'RE
SUPPOSED
TO BE
CONFINED
TO
QUARTERS
RIGHT
NOW.

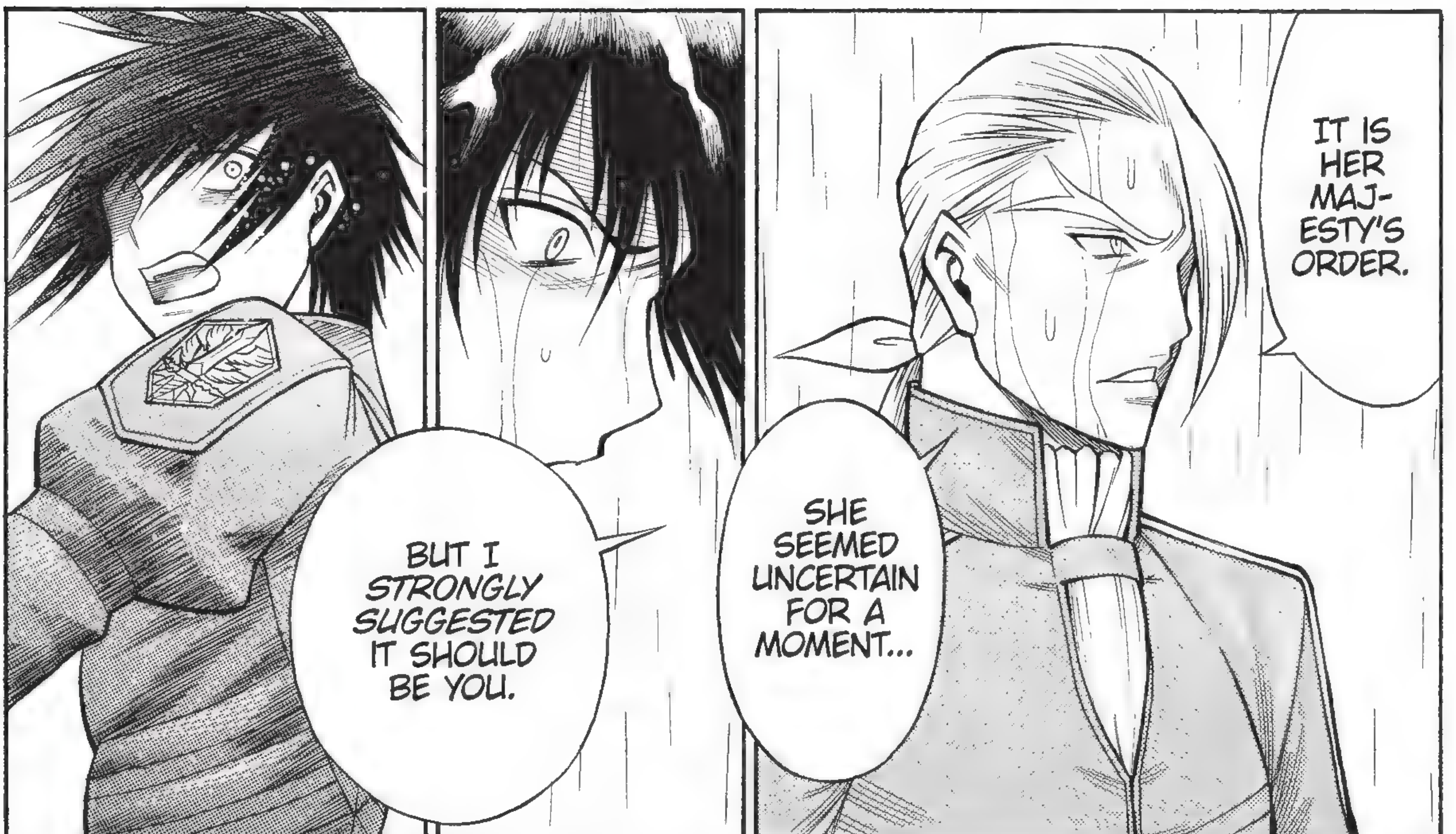
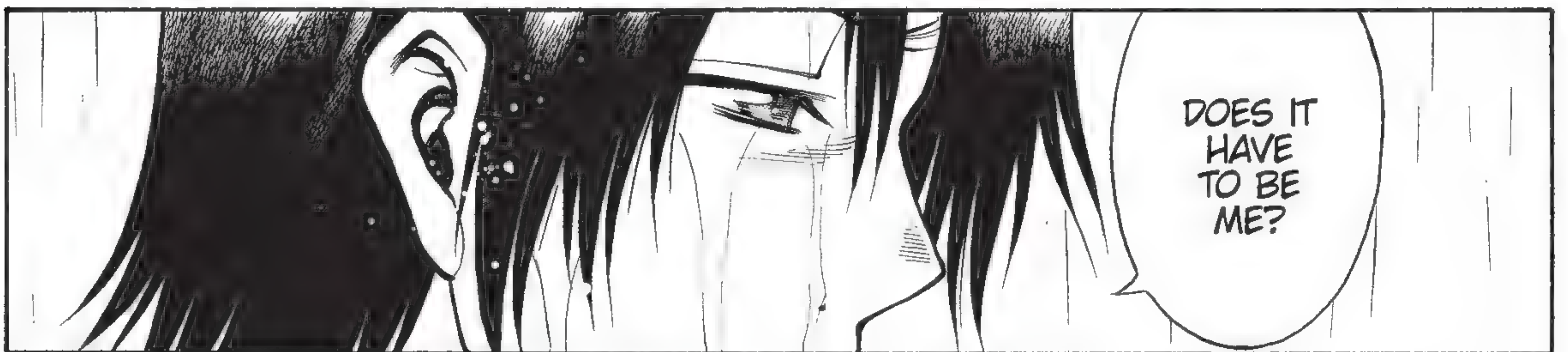
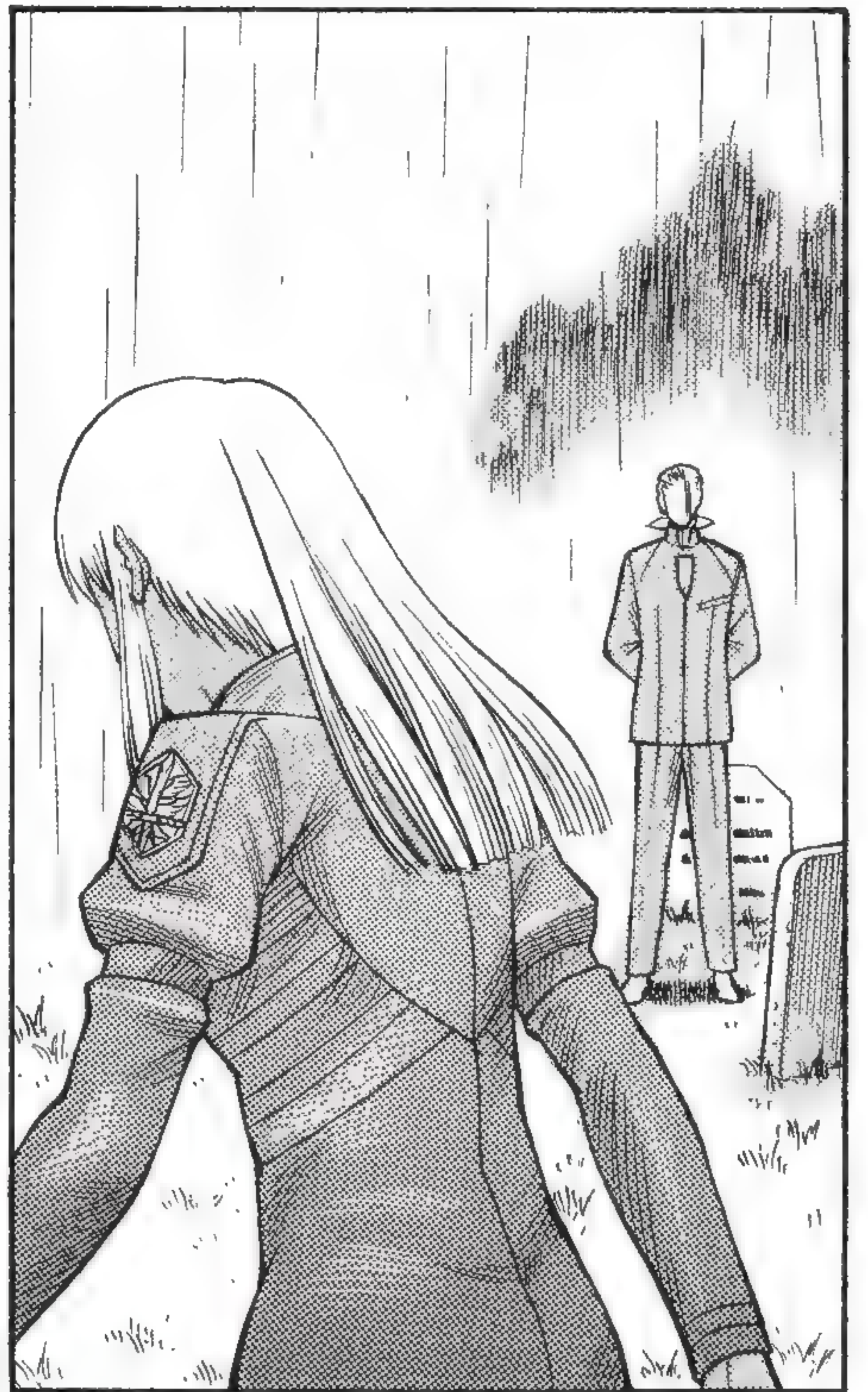


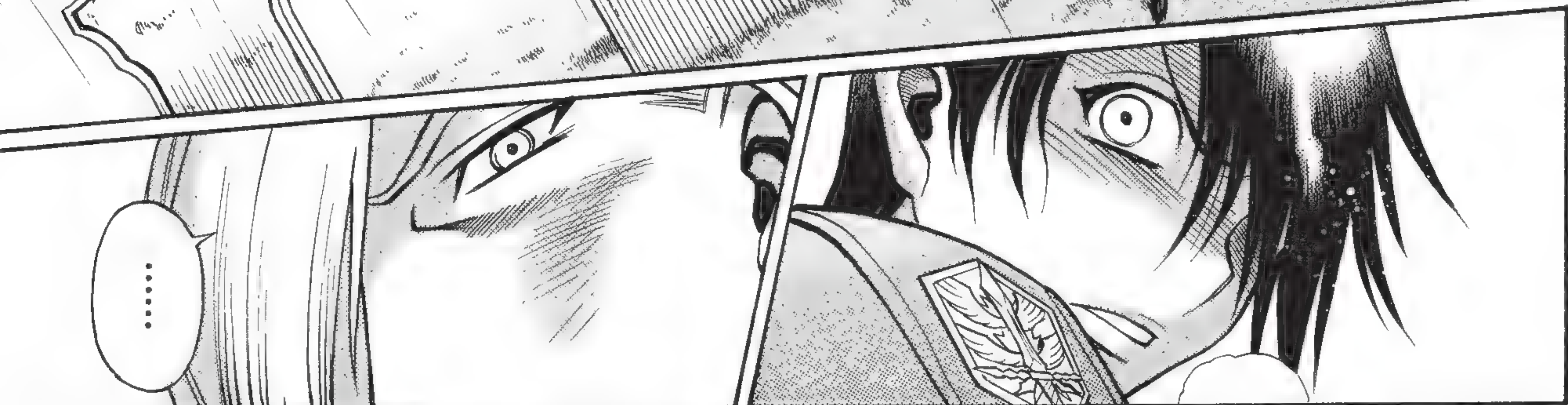
NO
MATTER
WHAT.

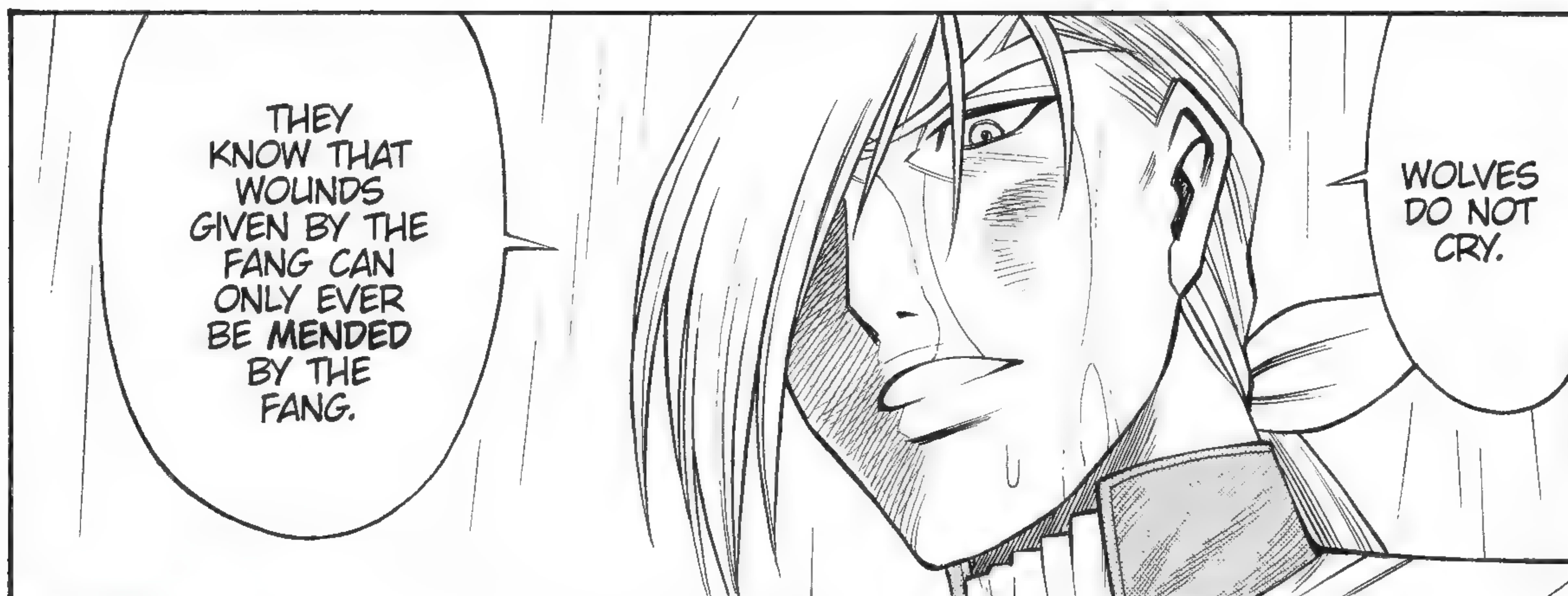
AL-
WAYS.



THAT'S ALL
I EVER
WANTED
TO HEAR...
THANK
YOU...







THEY
KNOW THAT
WOUNDS
GIVEN BY THE
FANG CAN
ONLY EVER
BE MENDED
BY THE
FANG.

WOLVES
DO NOT
CRY.



I HAVE NO
DOUBT THAT
HER MAJESTY
WILL KEEP
YOU CLOSE
AND THINK
OF YOU
DEARLY, EVEN
SHOULD
YOU BE A
RABBIT.

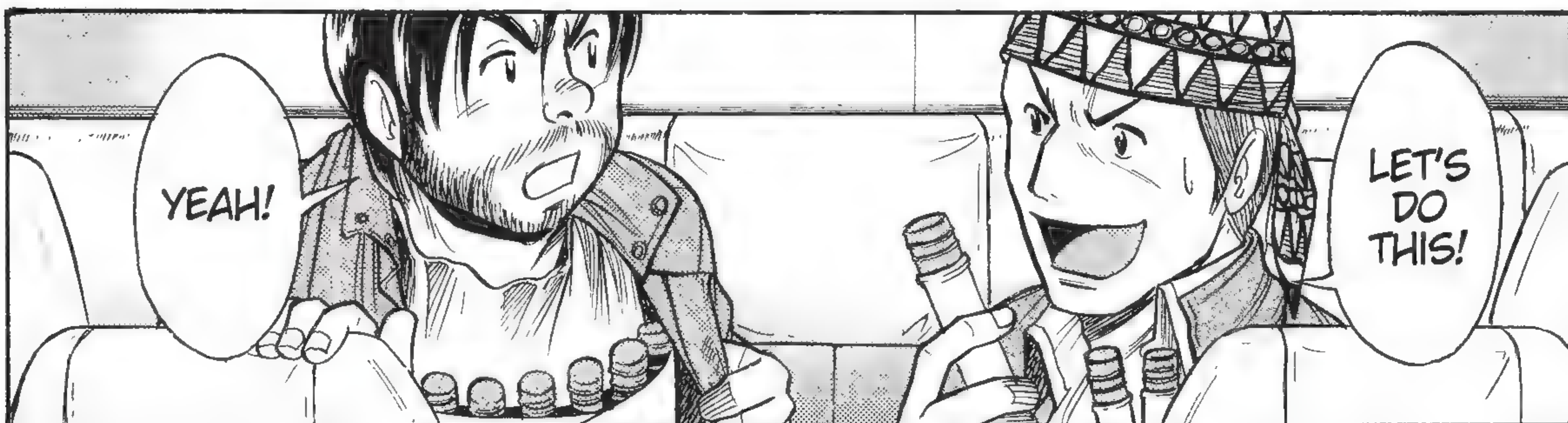
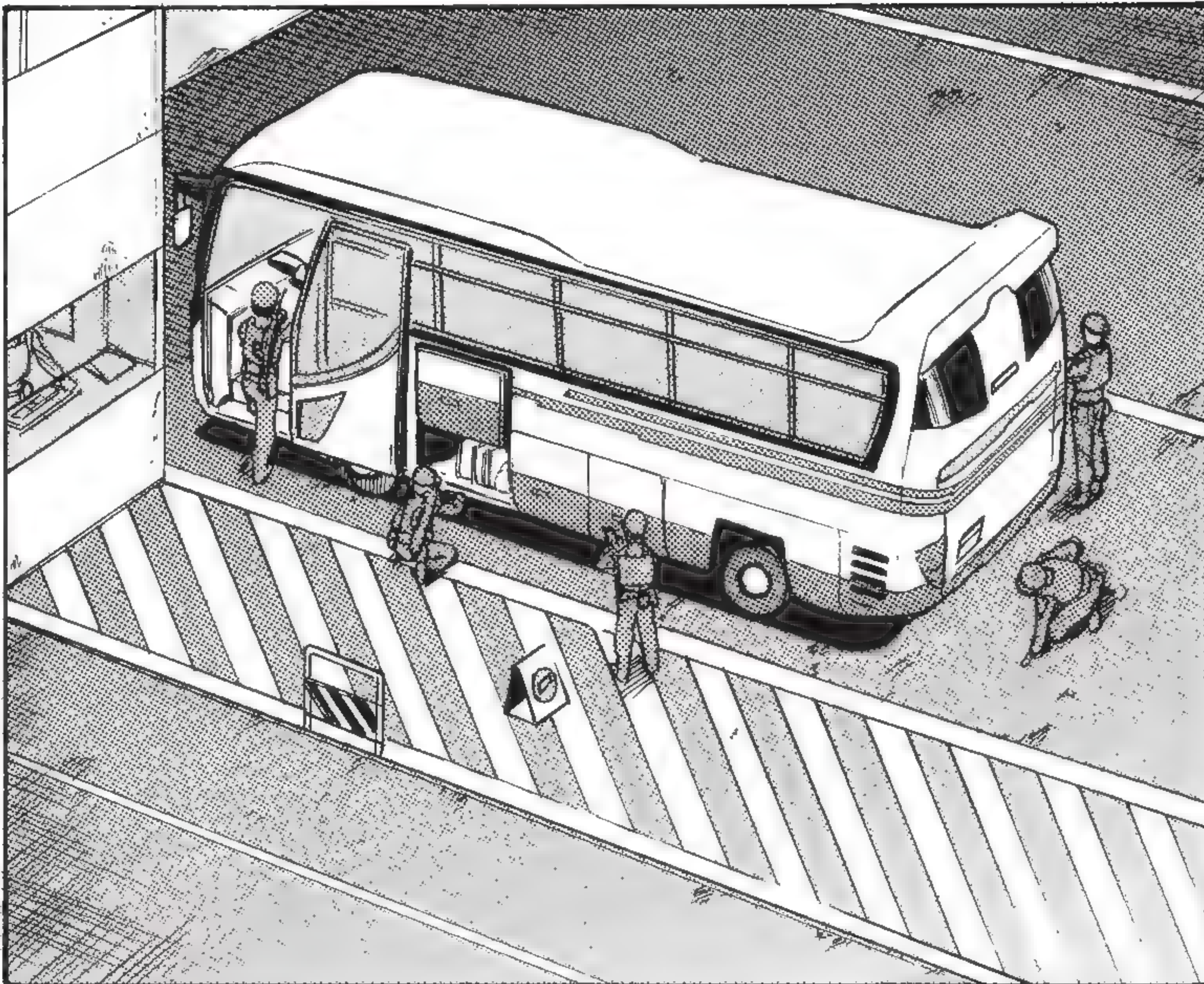
BUT
WOULD
THAT
SATISFY
YOU?

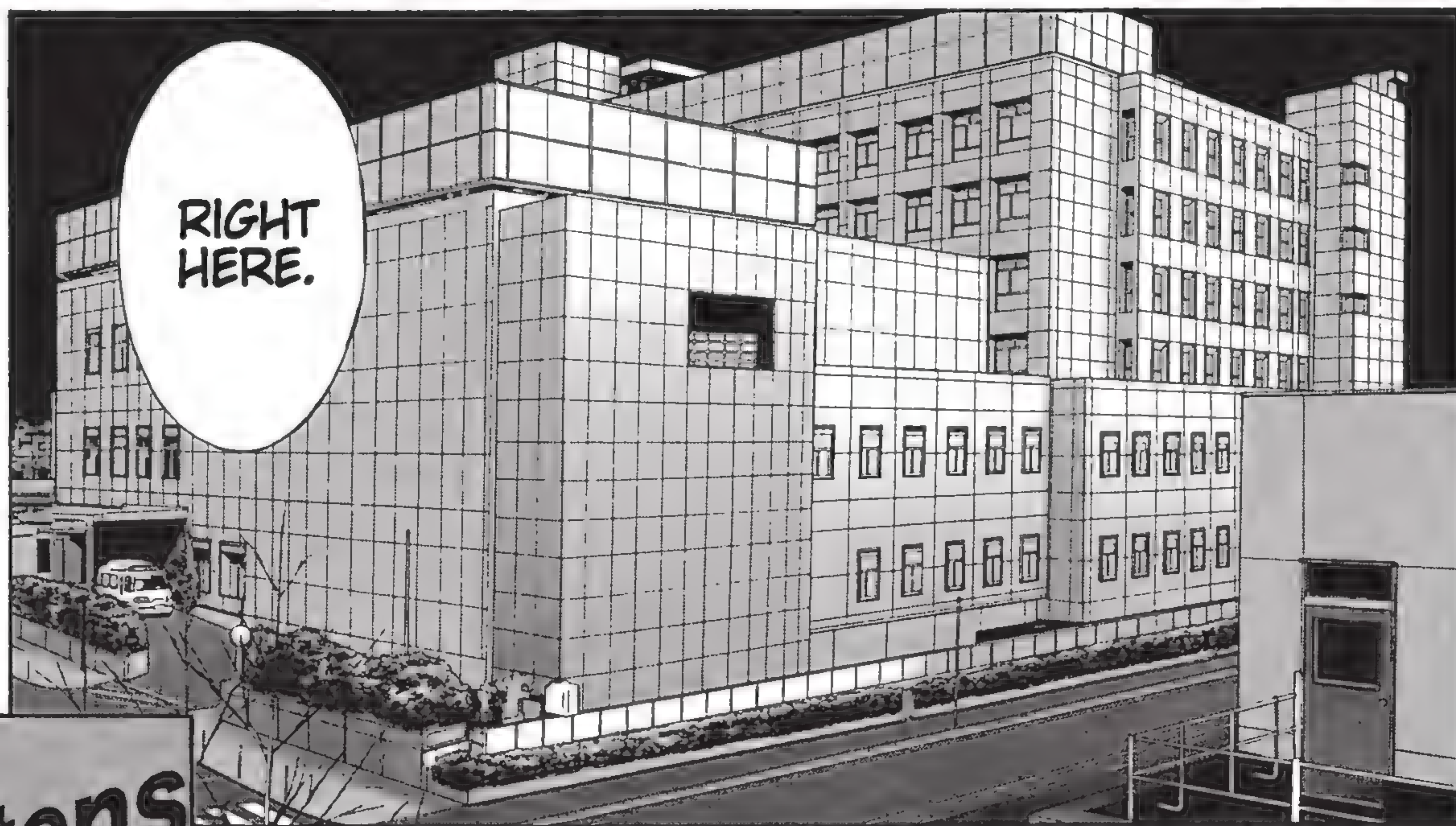
WITHOUT
INTERVEN-
TION
FROM ME,
AND ASK
YOUR
HEART,
IS *THIS*
WHAT YOU
WANT?

LOOK
BACK ON
THIS LIFE
THAT YOU
HAVE
CHOSEN
FOR
YOURSELF
...

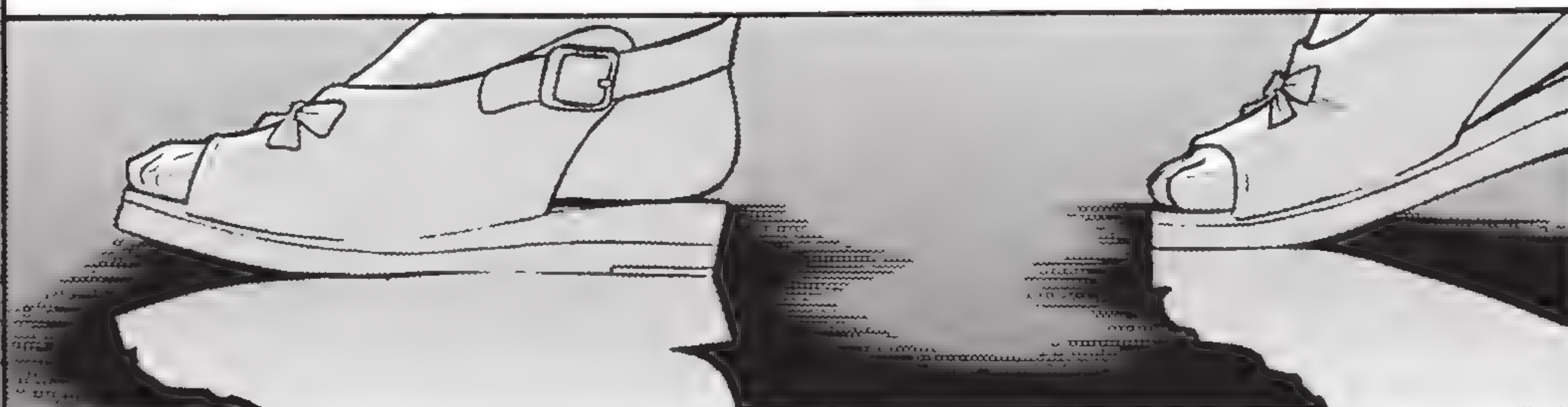


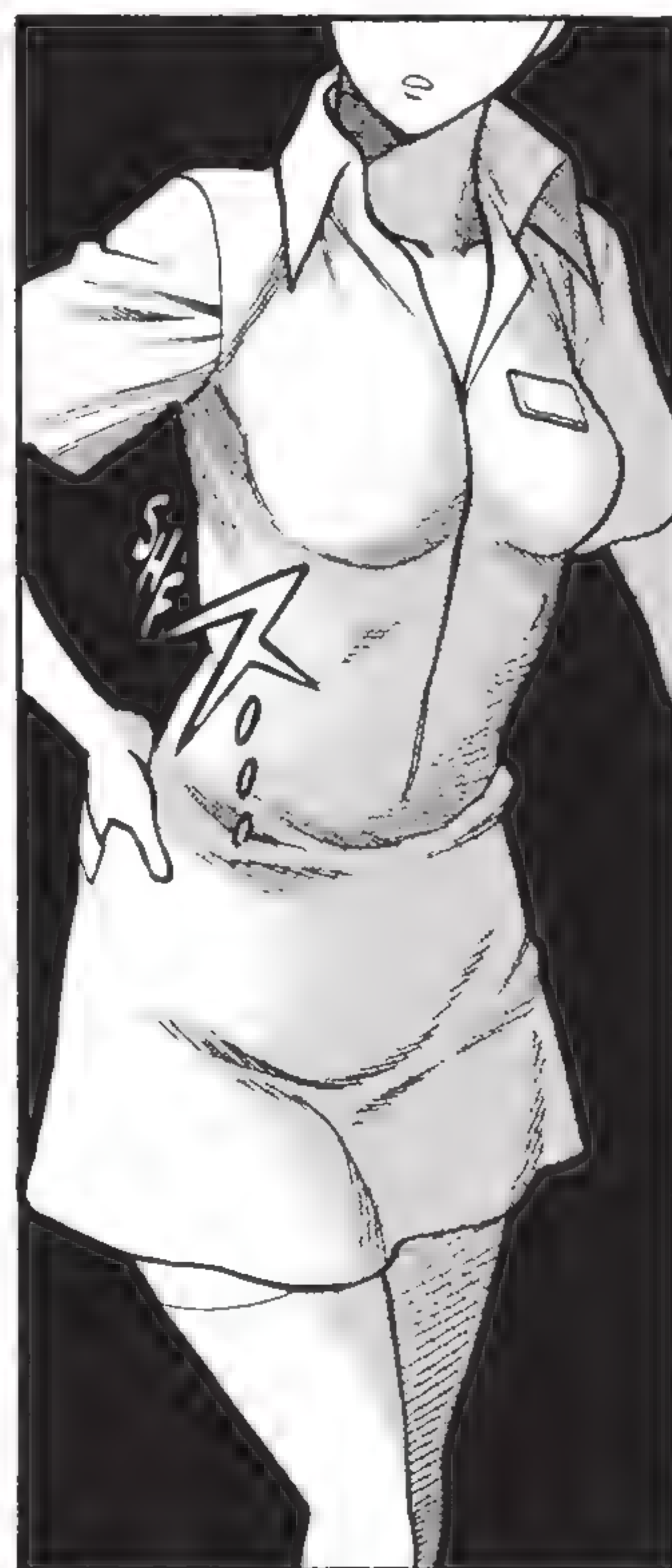
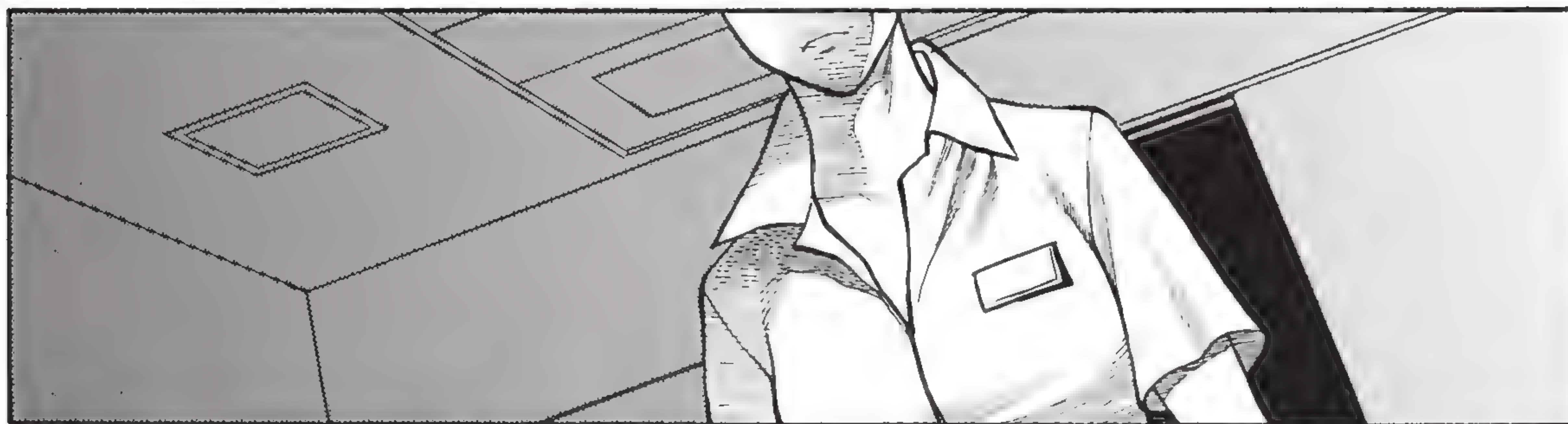
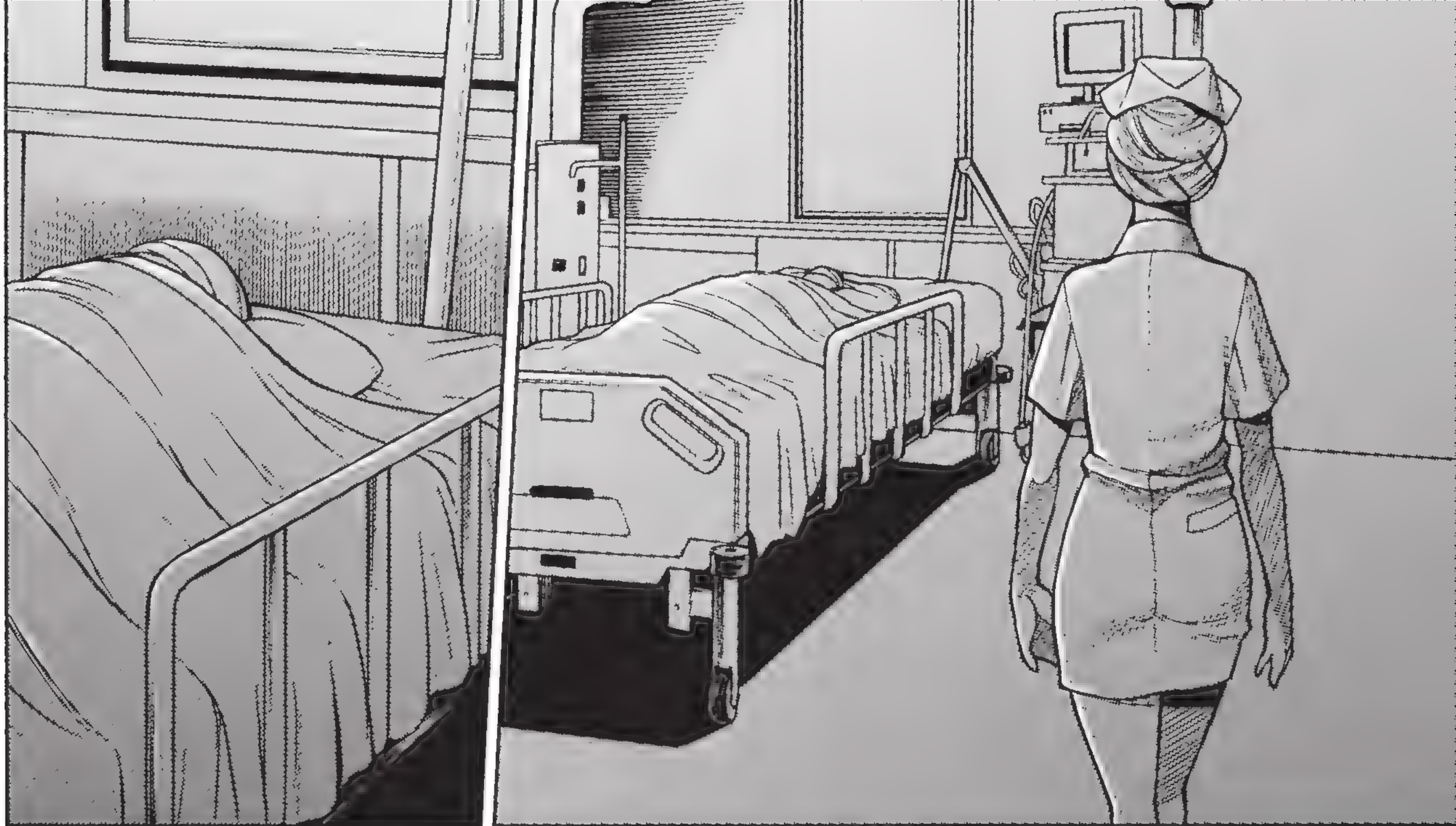
I'VE
BECOME
TALKATIVE
IN MY
OLD
AGE...





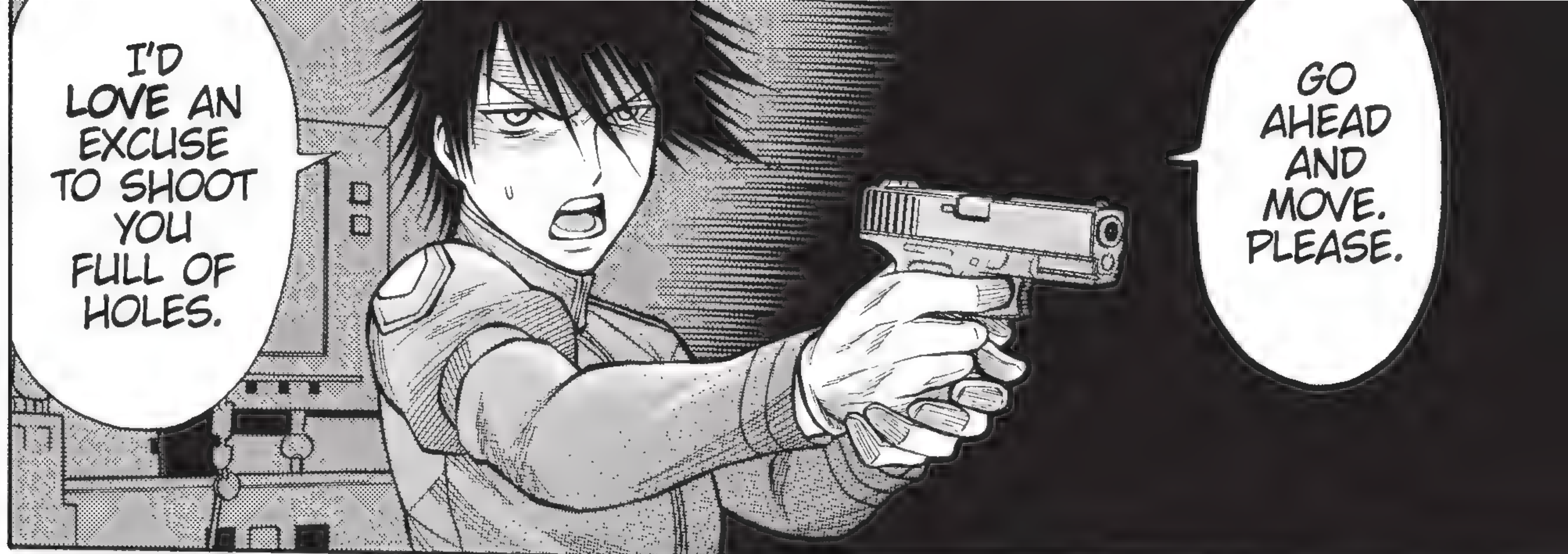
Intens
Care
Unit







HI,
TATIANNNA.
GLAD
YOU
COULD
COME.



I'D LOVE AN EXCUSE TO SHOOT YOU FULL OF HOLES.

GO AHEAD AND MOVE. PLEASE.



WHERE IS SHE?

.....



I'VE NEVER KILLED ANYONE OUT OF HATE BEFORE, BUT THERE'S A FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING.

HOW DARE YOU DO THAT TO YUKI?!



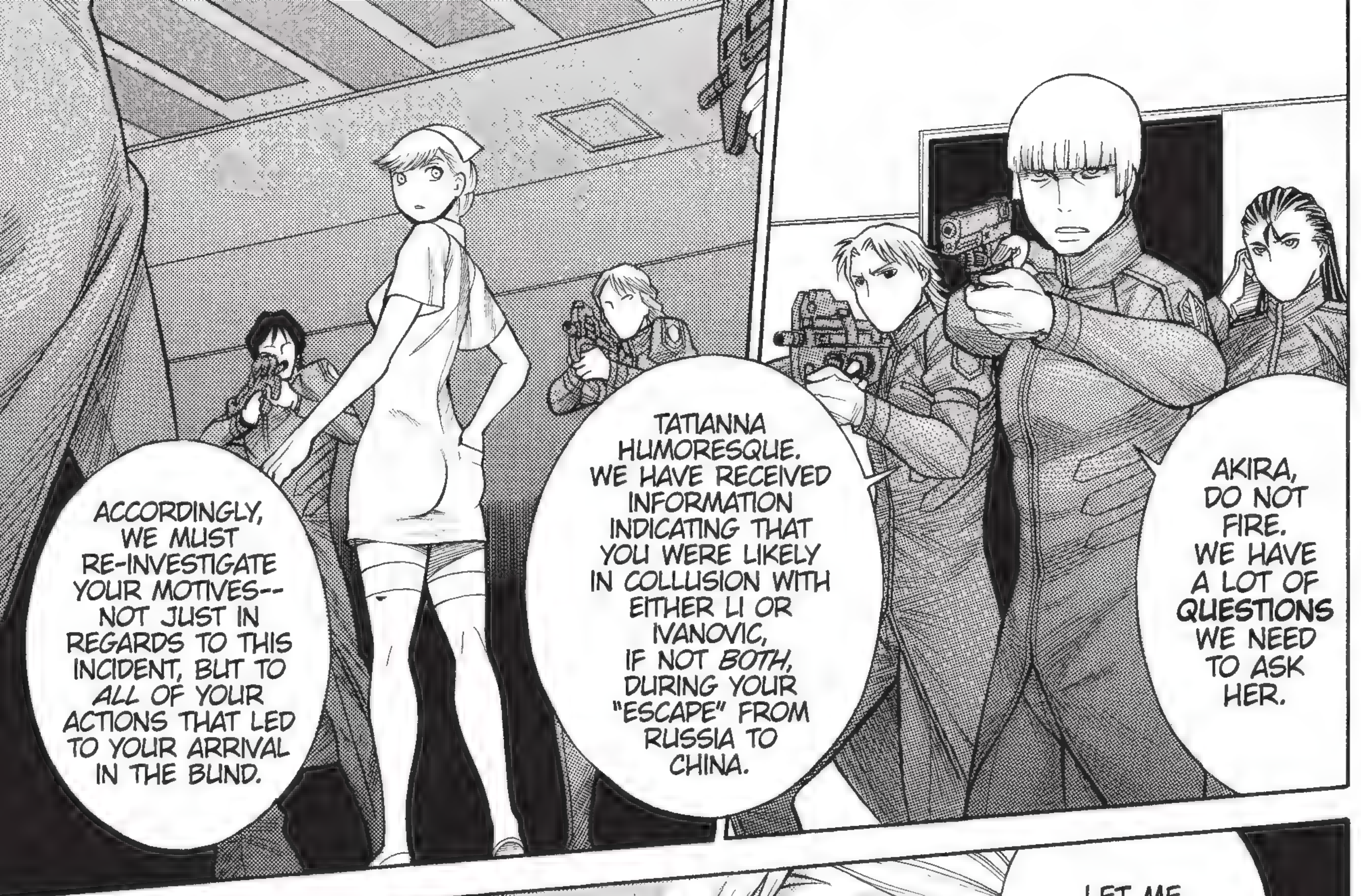
HOW DO YOU LIKE THIS LITTLE TRAP THAT ALPHONSE COOKED UP?

AND LOOK, HERE YOU ARE. YOU JUST PROVED YOU DID IT ALL BY YOURSELF !!

HE FIGURED THAT IF WE LET IT "LEAK" THAT YUKI RECOVERED AND COULD IDENTIFY HER ATTACKER, THE PERP WOULD COME HERE TO SHUT HER UP BEFORE HE COULD BE FINGERED.



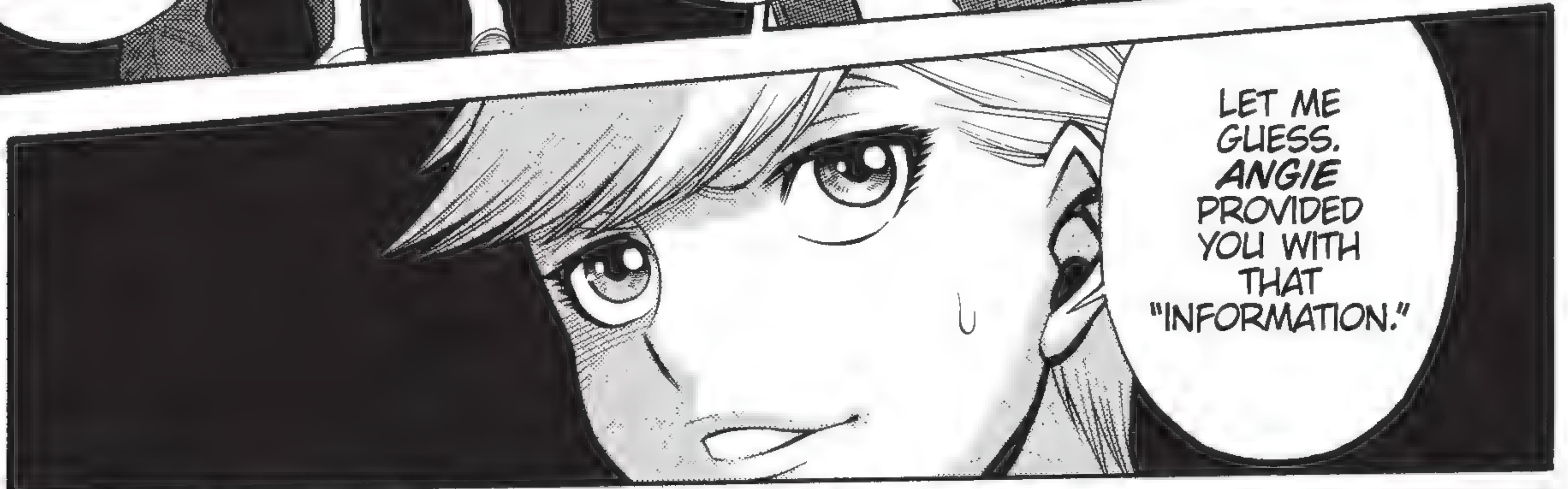
STILL IN A COMA OFF IN ANOTHER ROOM.



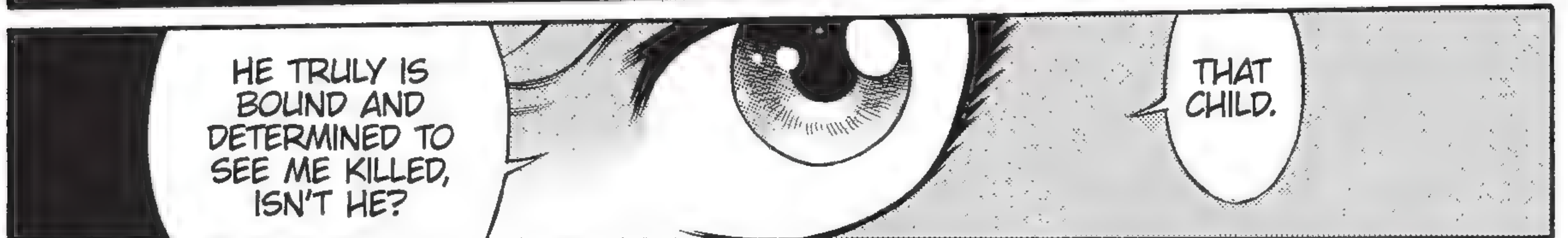
ACCORDINGLY,
WE MUST
RE-INVESTIGATE
YOUR MOTIVES---
NOT JUST IN
REGARDS TO THIS
INCIDENT, BUT TO
ALL OF YOUR
ACTIONS THAT LED
TO YOUR ARRIVAL
IN THE BUND.

TATIANNA
HUMORESQUE.
WE HAVE RECEIVED
INFORMATION
INDICATING THAT
YOU WERE LIKELY
IN COLLUSION WITH
EITHER LI OR
IVANOVIC,
IF NOT BOTH,
DURING YOUR
"ESCAPE" FROM
RUSSIA TO
CHINA.

AKIRA,
DO NOT
FIRE.
WE HAVE
A LOT OF
QUESTIONS
WE NEED
TO ASK
HER.



LET ME
GUESS.
ANGIE
PROVIDED
YOU WITH
THAT
"INFORMATION."



HE TRULY IS
BOUND AND
DETERMINED TO
SEE ME KILLED,
ISN'T HE?

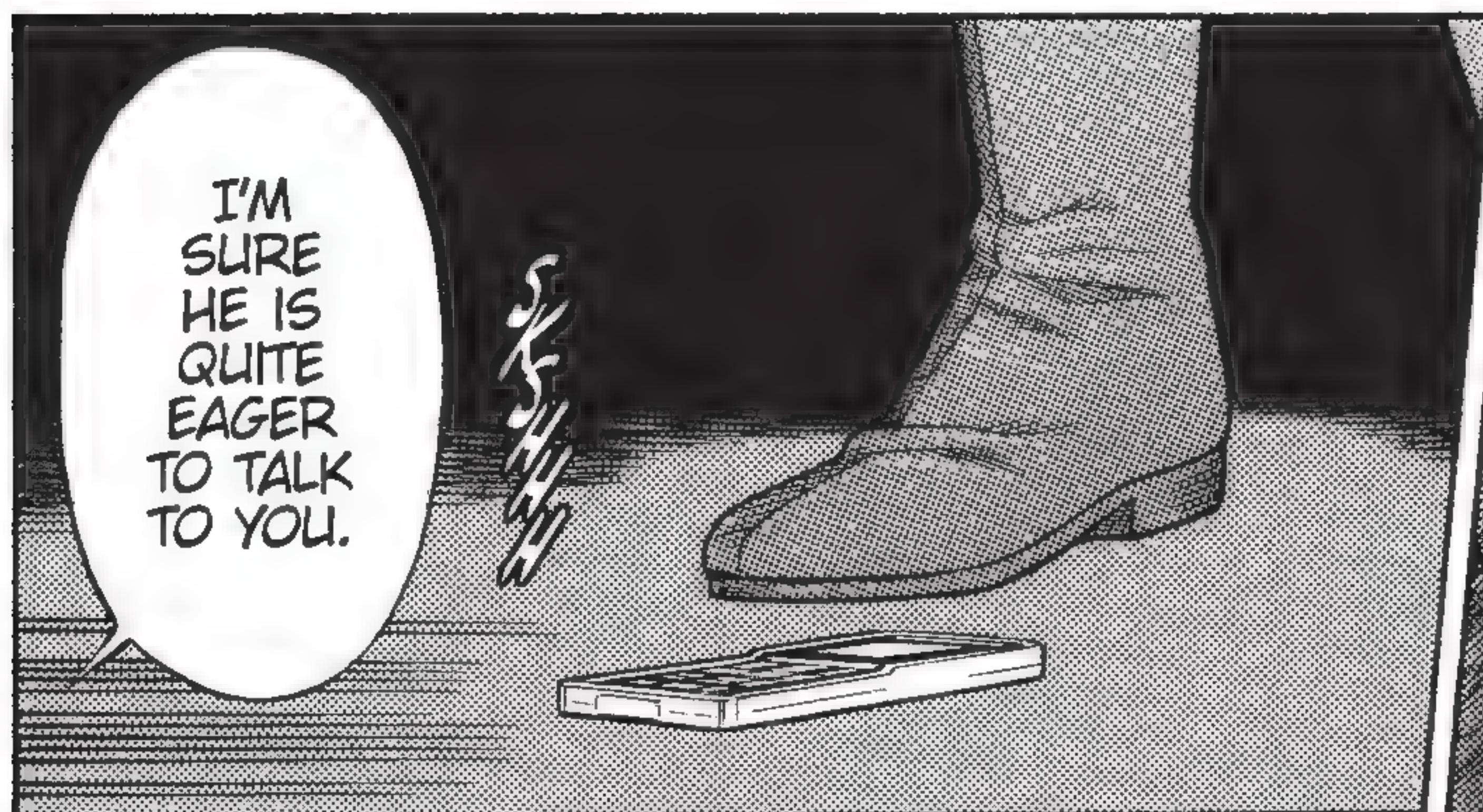
THAT
CHILD.



SO
DON'T
SHOOT
ME,
OKAY?

LISTEN.
I'M GOING
TO TAKE
THIS ITEM
OUT OF MY
POCKET
NOW.
IT'S NOT
A WEAPON,
I PROMISE.

WHAT
ARE YOU
GOING
ON
ABOUT
?





ASK HIM.
I'M
CERTAIN
HE HAS
A VERY
INTERESTING
STORY
FOR YOU.



HOW'D
THAT
WRECK
HAPPEN
IN THE
FIRST
PLACE...?

BUT
...

WHO
WAS IT
WHO
GOT
KILLED
IN THE
FIRE?!

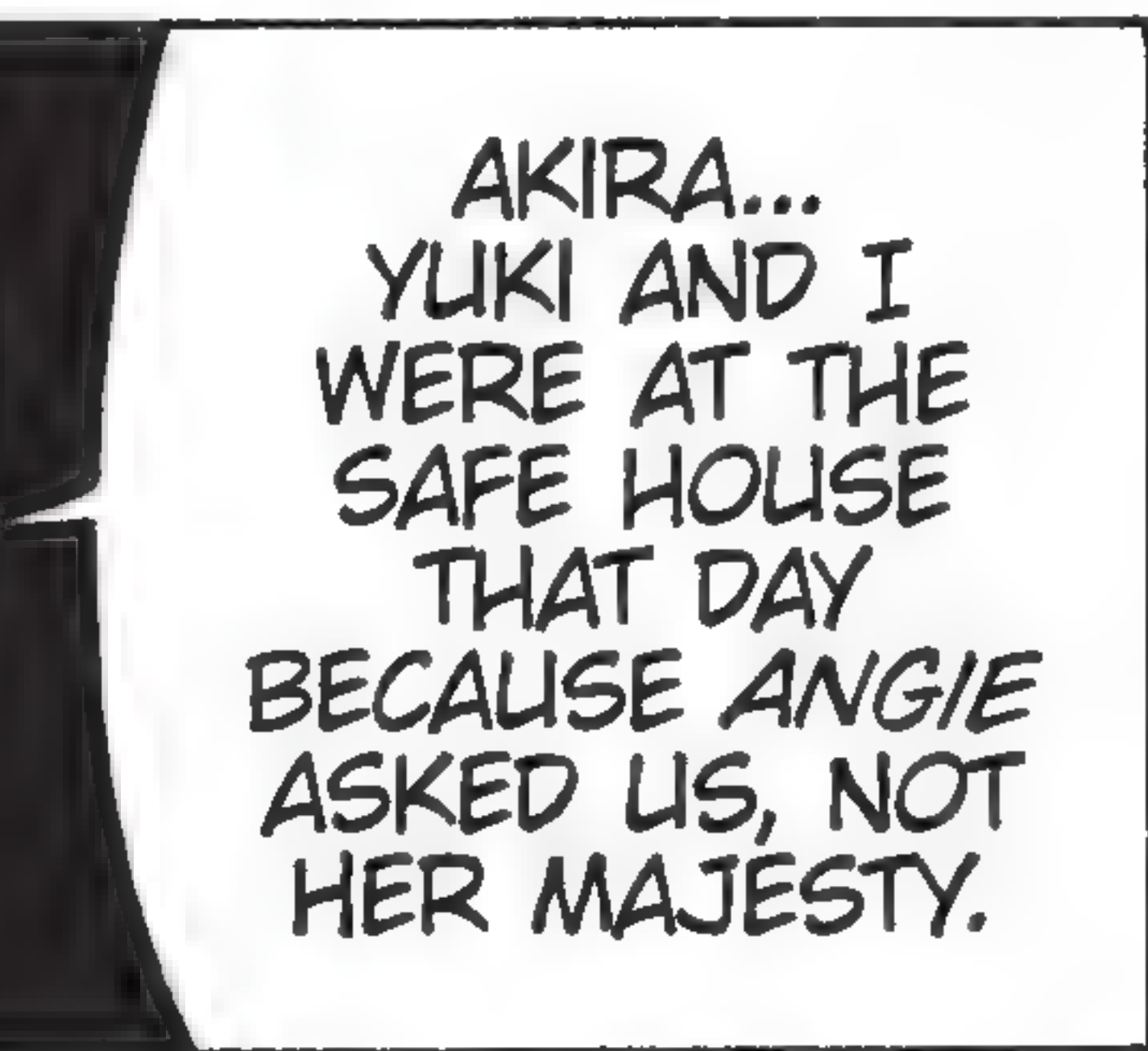


YOU'RE
OKAY!

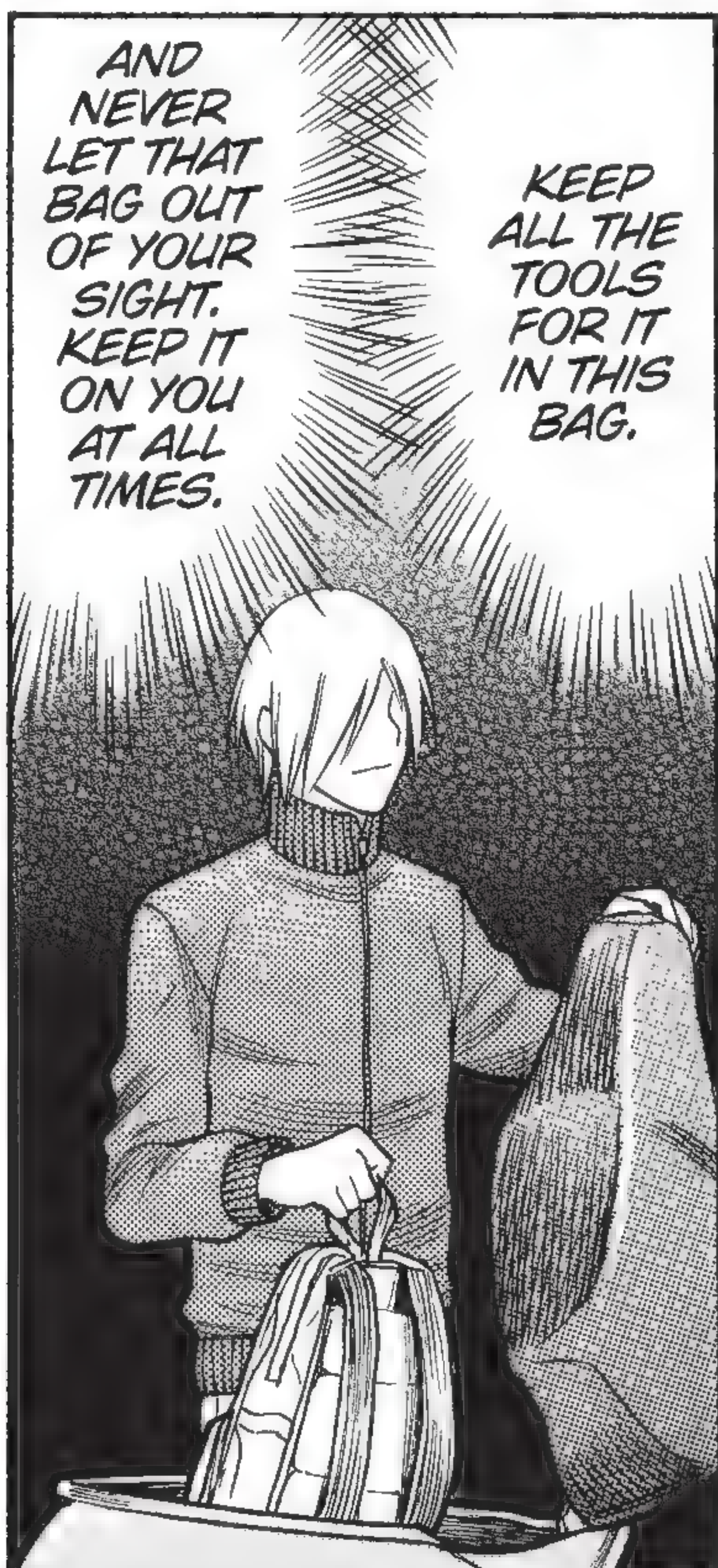
OH...
THANK
GOD!



HE WANTED
TO KNOW
THE TRUTH
ABOUT HER
AND WHY
SHE WAS
HERE.

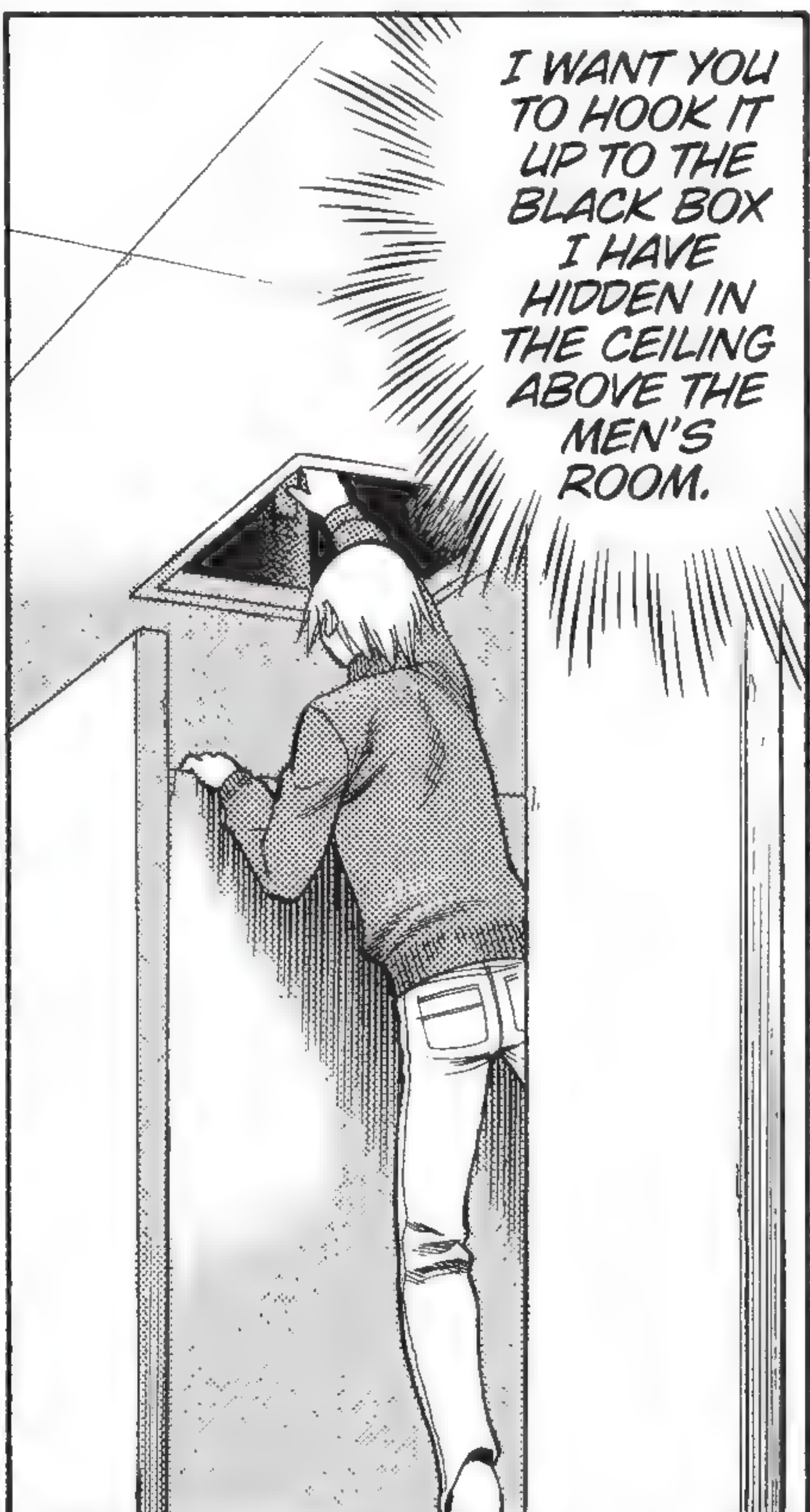


AKIRA...
YUKI AND I
WERE AT THE
SAFE HOUSE
THAT DAY
BECAUSE ANGIE
ASKED US, NOT
HER MAJESTY.

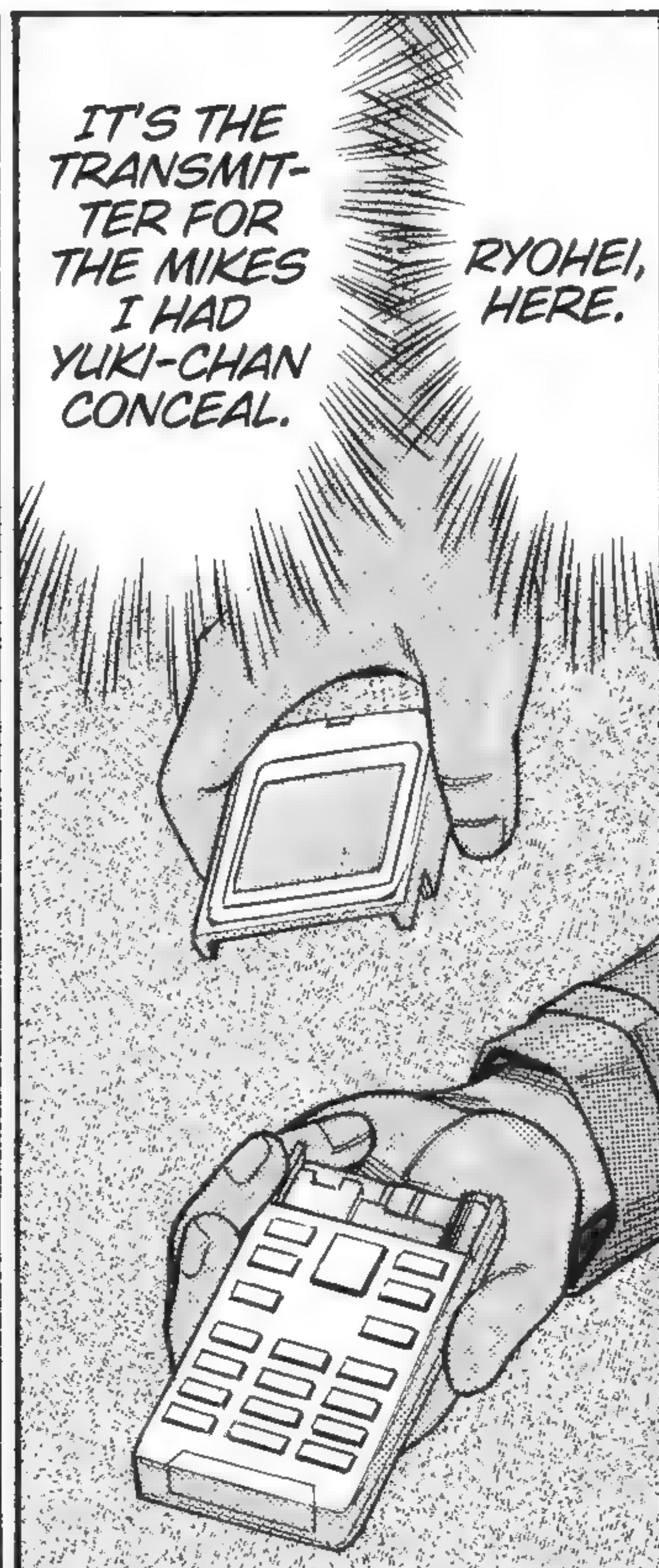


AND
NEVER
LET THAT
BAG OUT
OF YOUR
SIGHT.
KEEP IT
ON YOU
AT ALL
TIMES.

KEEP
ALL THE
TOOLS
FOR IT
IN THIS
BAG.

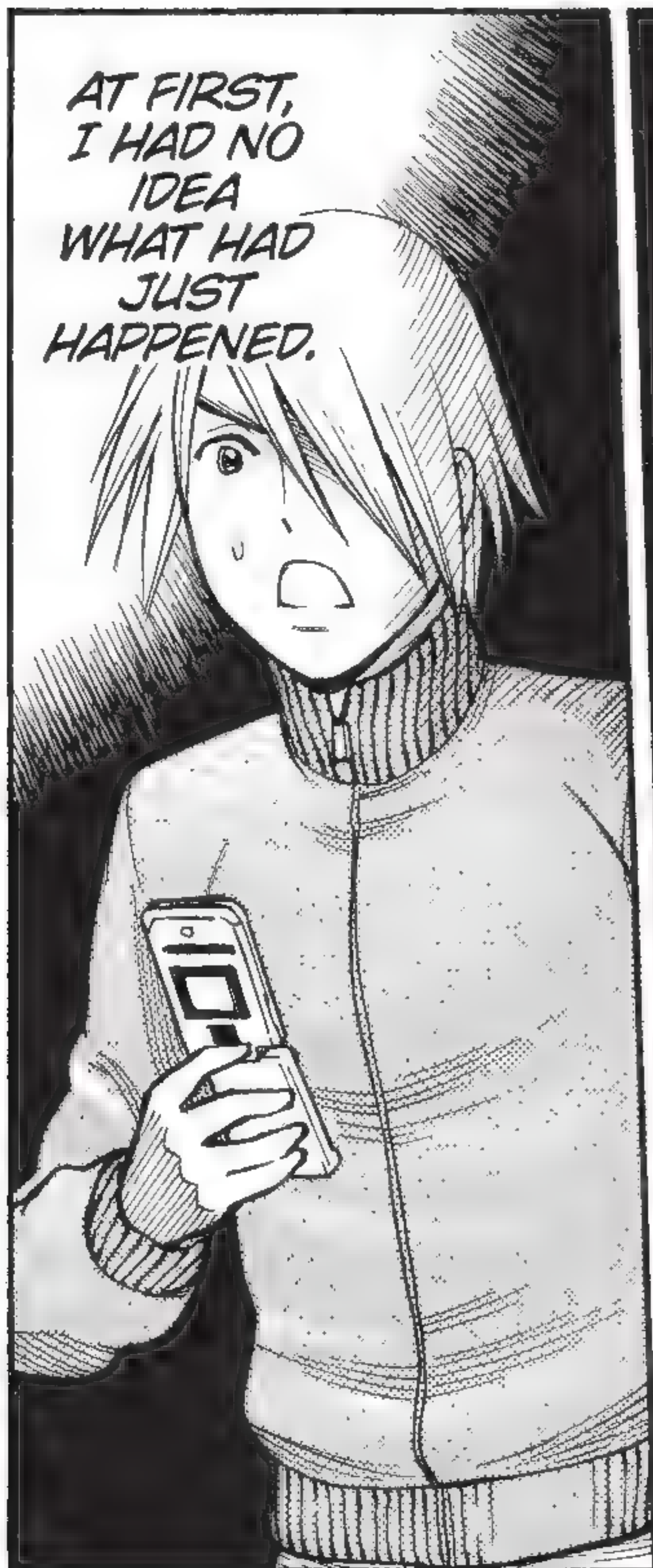
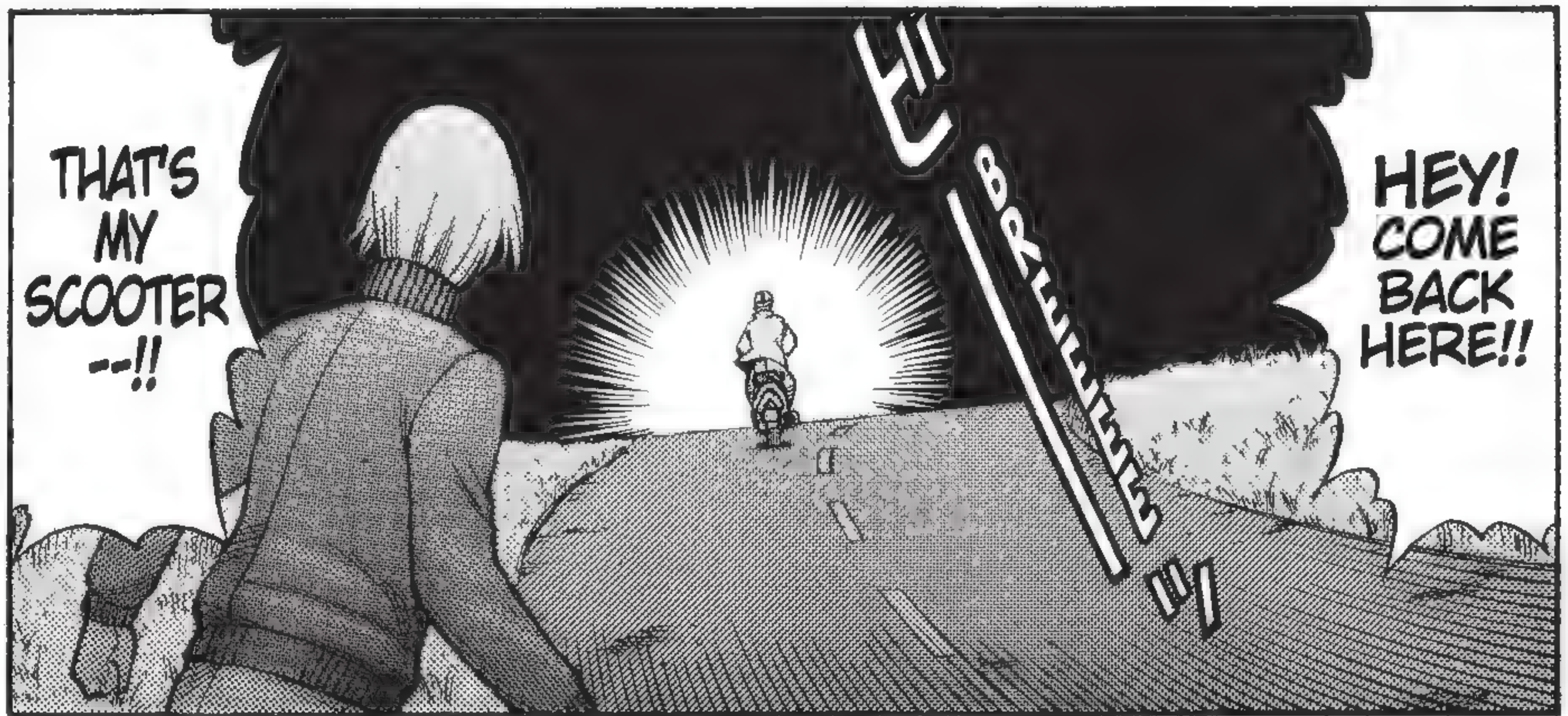
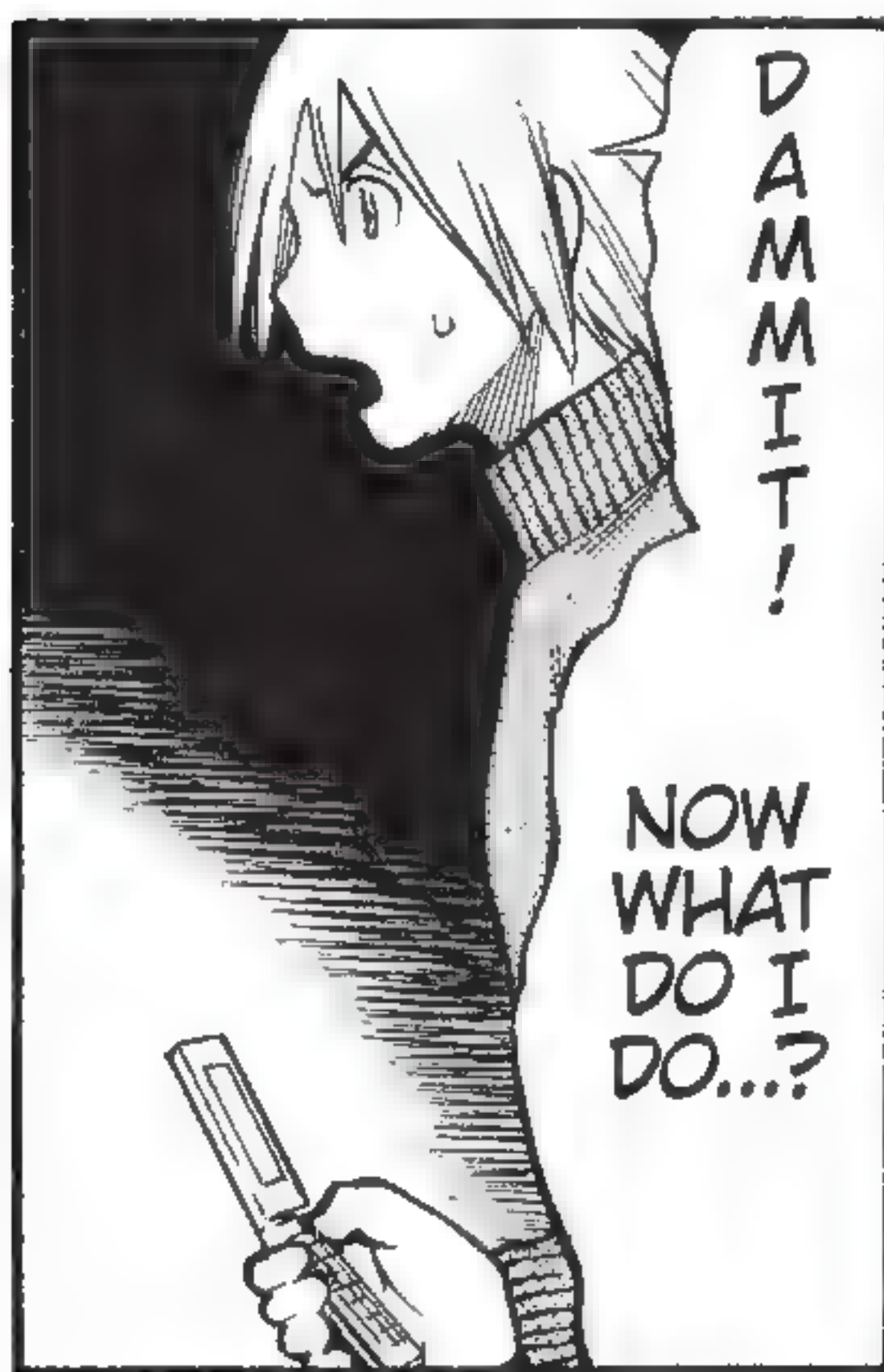
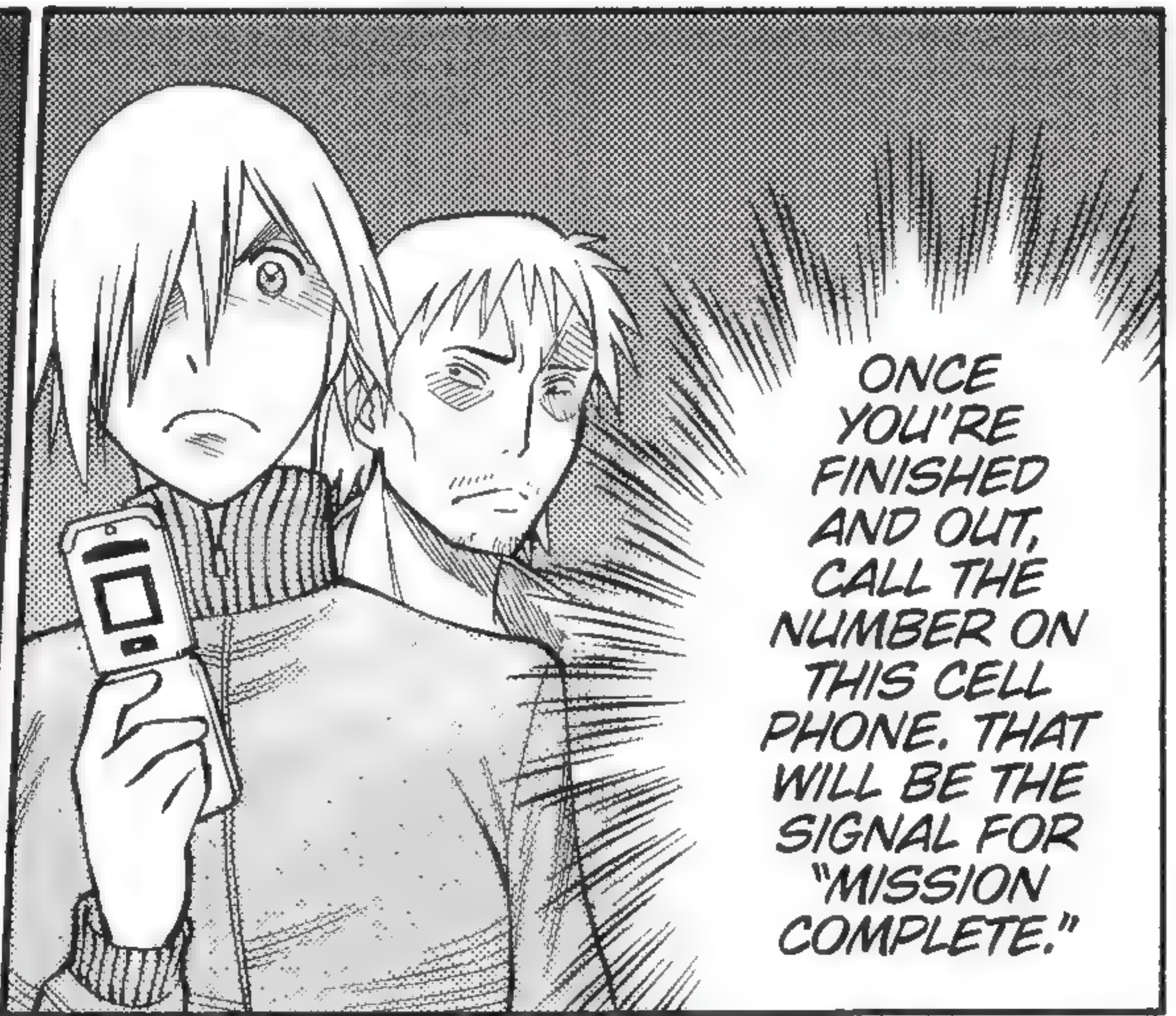
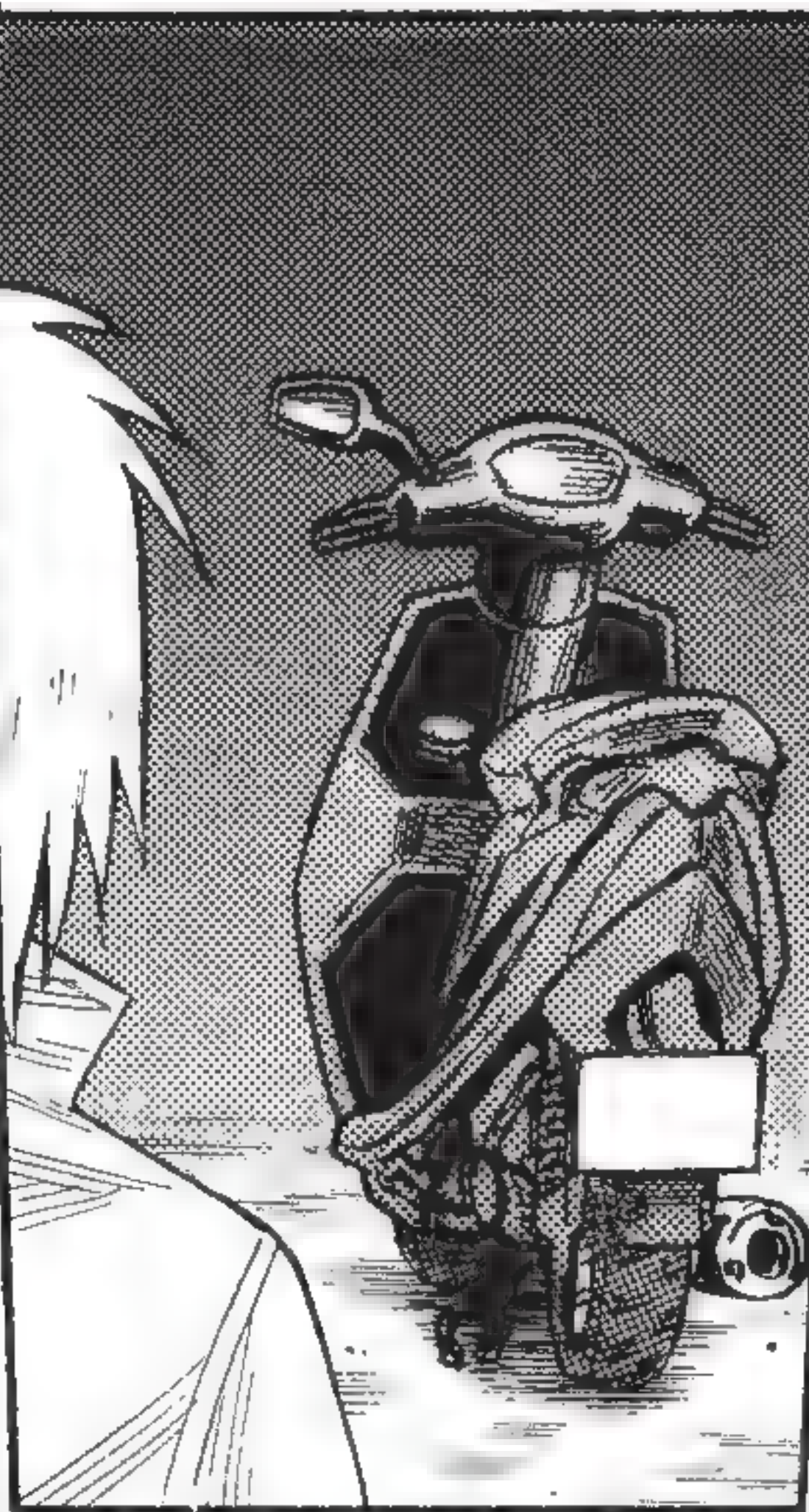
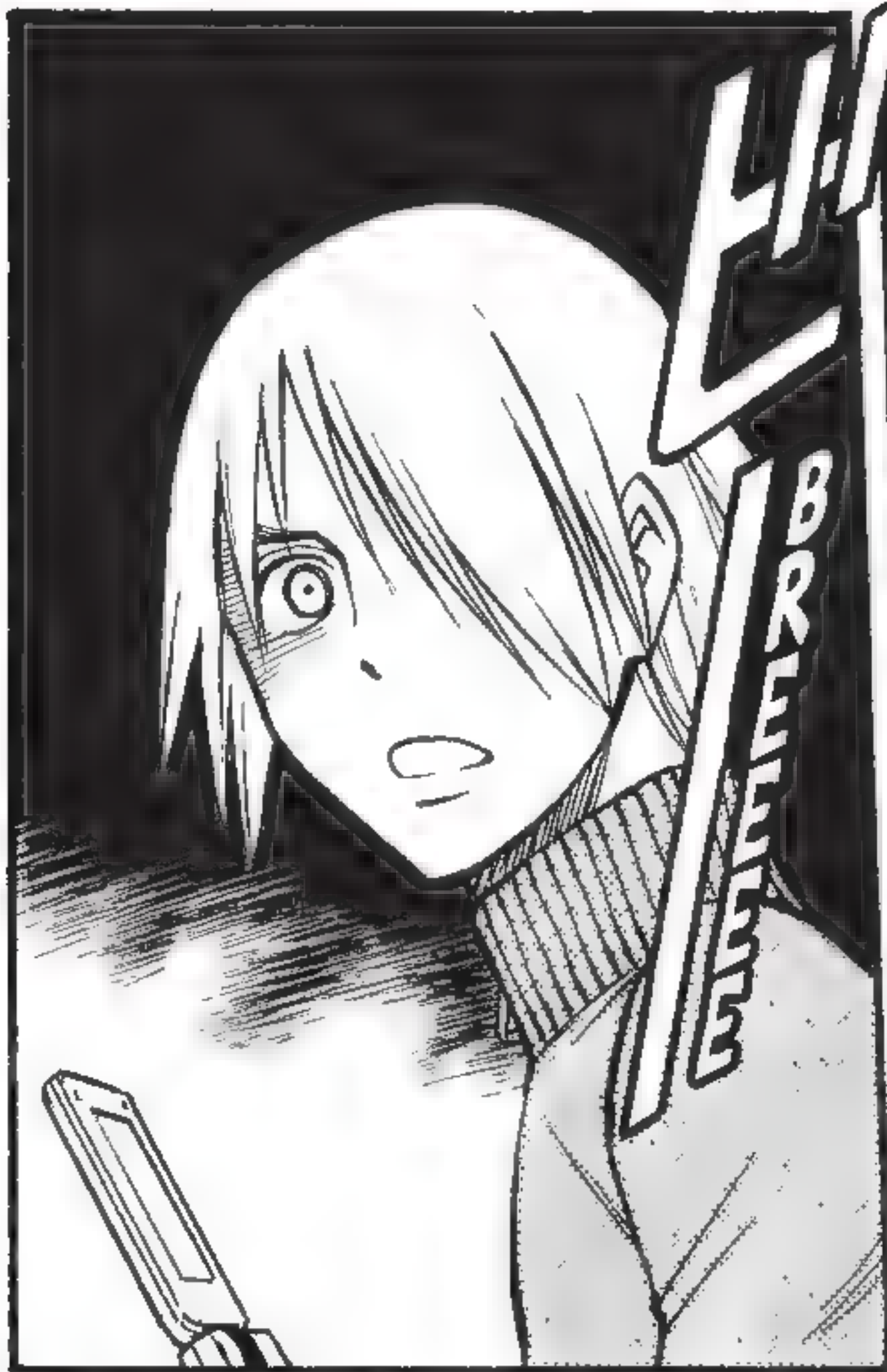


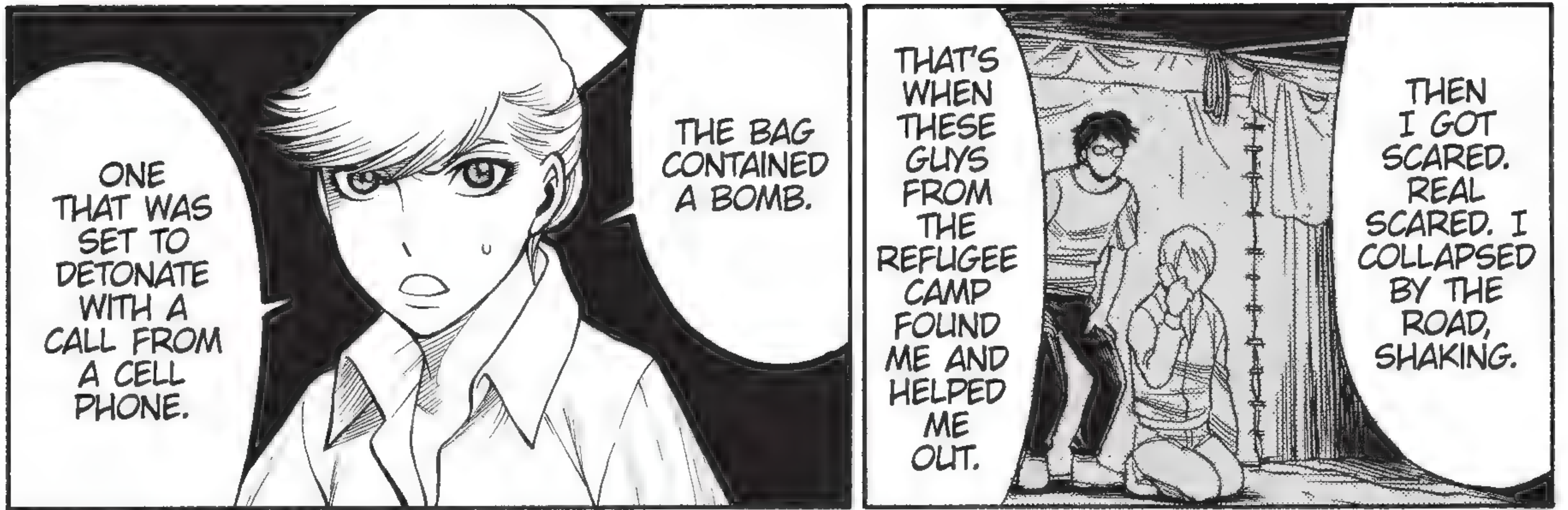
I WANT YOU
TO HOOK IT
UP TO THE
BLACK BOX
I HAVE
HIDDEN IN
THE CEILING
ABOVE THE
MEN'S
ROOM.

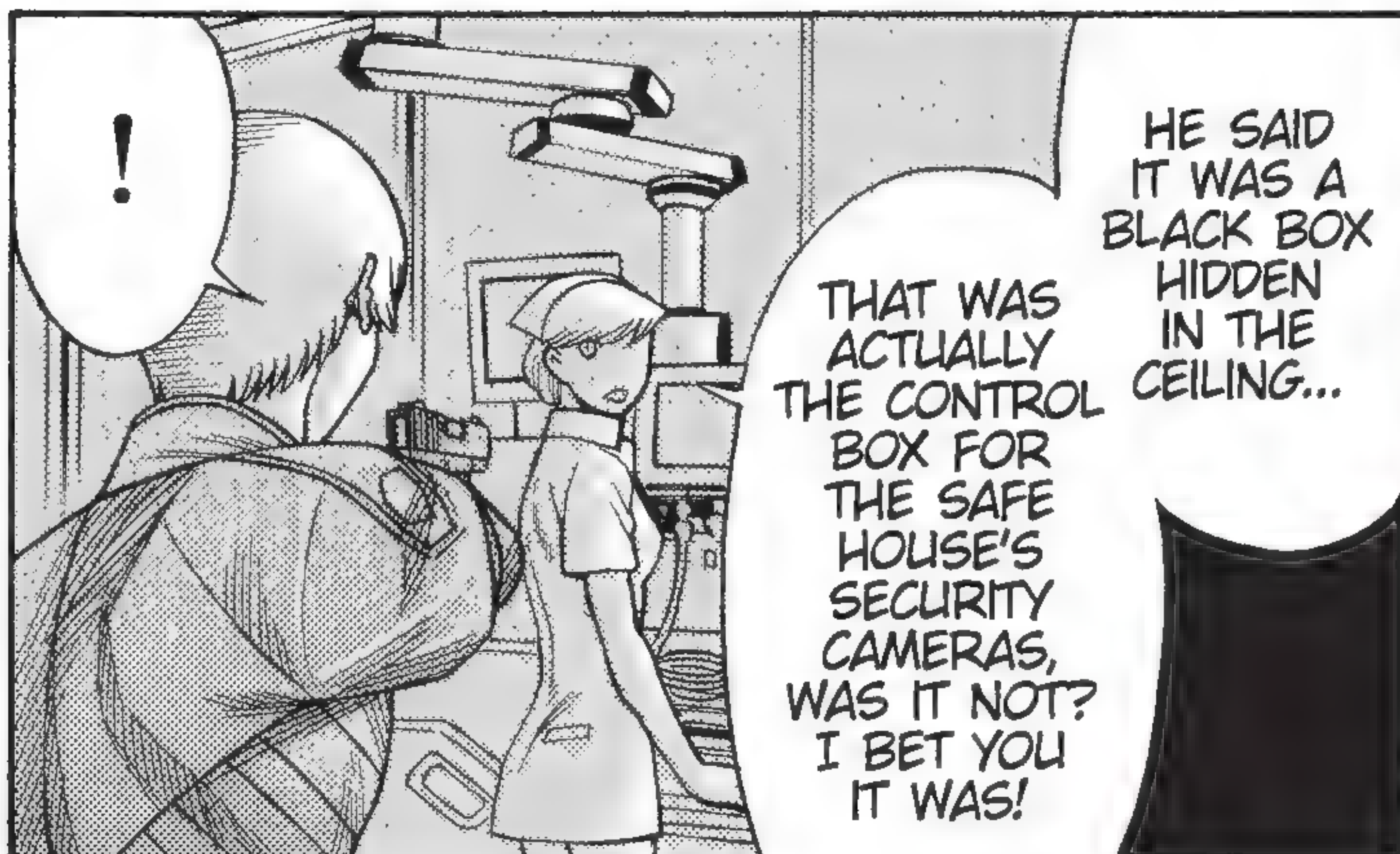


IT'S THE
TRANSMIT-
TER FOR
THE MIKES
I HAD
YUKI-CHAN
CONCEAL.

RYOHEI,
HERE.

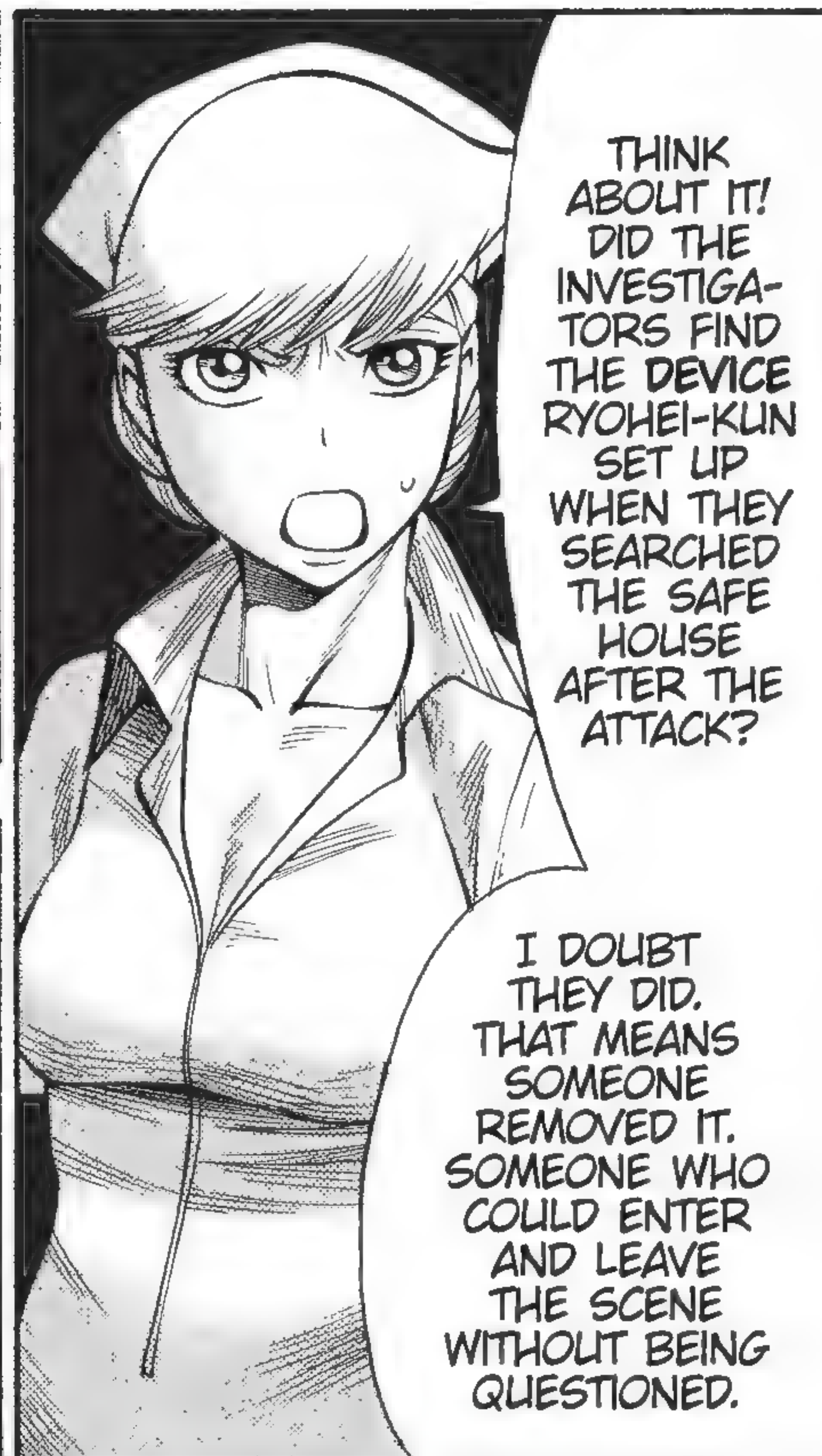






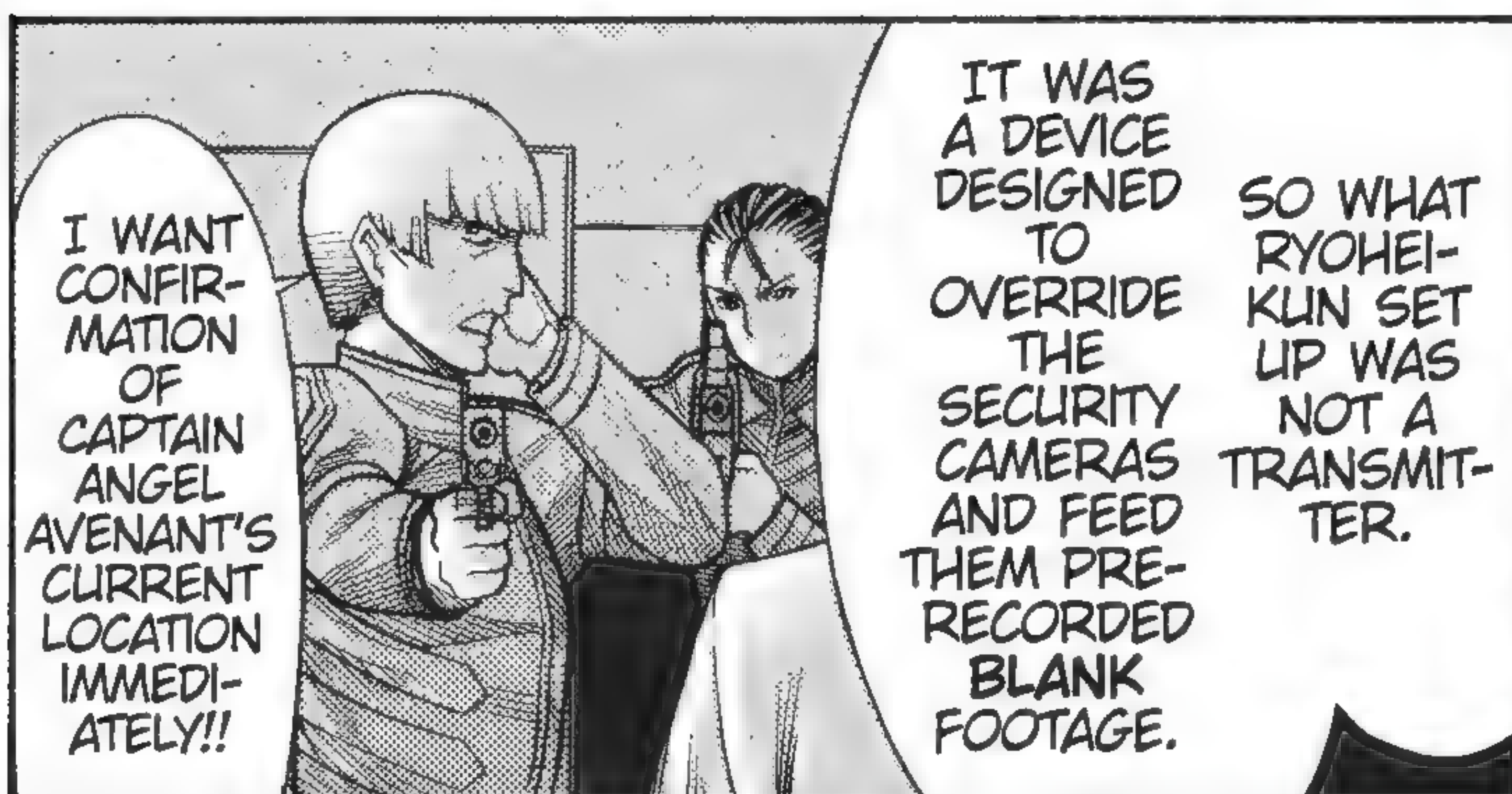
! THAT WAS ACTUALLY THE CONTROL BOX FOR THE SAFE HOUSE'S SECURITY CAMERAS, WAS IT NOT? I BET YOU IT WAS!

HE SAID IT WAS A BLACK BOX HIDDEN IN THE CEILING...



THINK ABOUT IT! DID THE INVESTIGATORS FIND THE DEVICE RYOHEI-KUN SET UP WHEN THEY SEARCHED THE SAFE HOUSE AFTER THE ATTACK?

I DOUBT THEY DID. THAT MEANS SOMEONE REMOVED IT. SOMEONE WHO COULD ENTER AND LEAVE THE SCENE WITHOUT BEING QUESTIONED.



I WANT CONFIRMATION OF CAPTAIN ANGEL AVENANT'S CURRENT LOCATION IMMEDIATELY!!

IT WAS A DEVICE DESIGNED TO OVERRIDE THE SECURITY CAMERAS AND FEED THEM PRE-RECORDED BLANK FOOTAGE.

SO WHAT RYOHEI-KUN SET UP WAS NOT A TRANSMITTER.



COMPLETE ERASURE OF ALL SENSE OR SIGN OF PRESENCE.

IT'S SOMETHING ANGIE'S ALWAYS BEEN INFURIATINGLY GOOD AT.



THAT'S WHY THE CAMERAS DIDN'T SHOW WHO DID IT. THEY WEREN'T RECORDING.

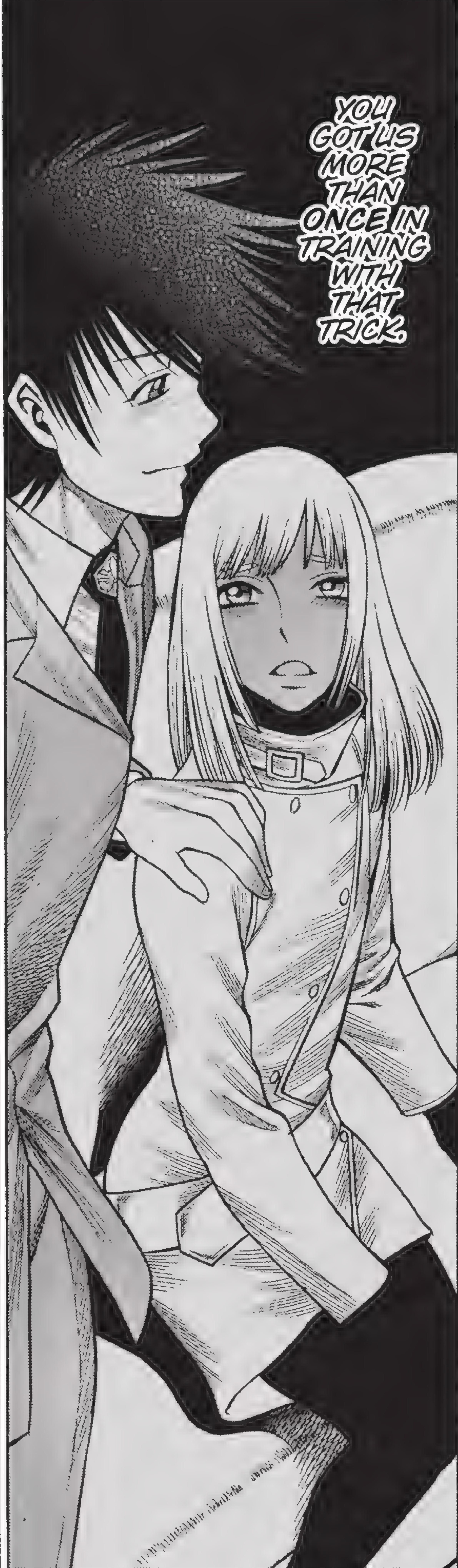
THE ONLY NECESSARY THING LEFT WAS A PERSON EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD AT STEALTH...



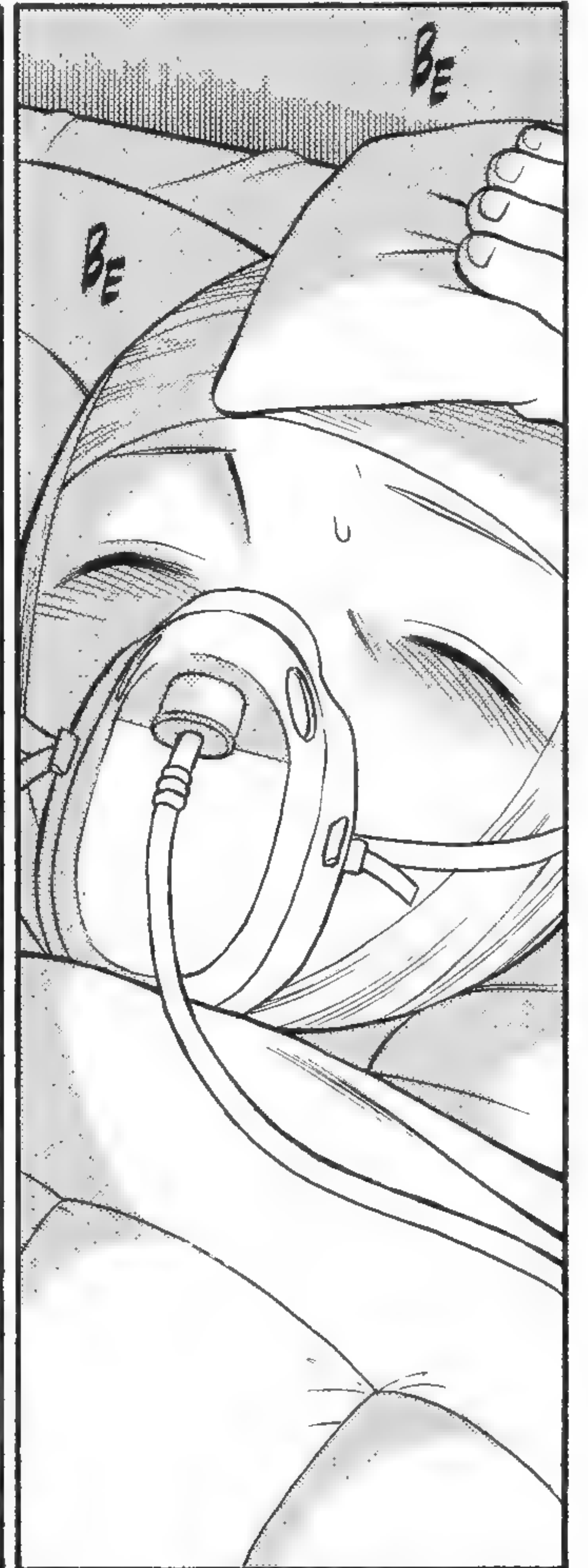
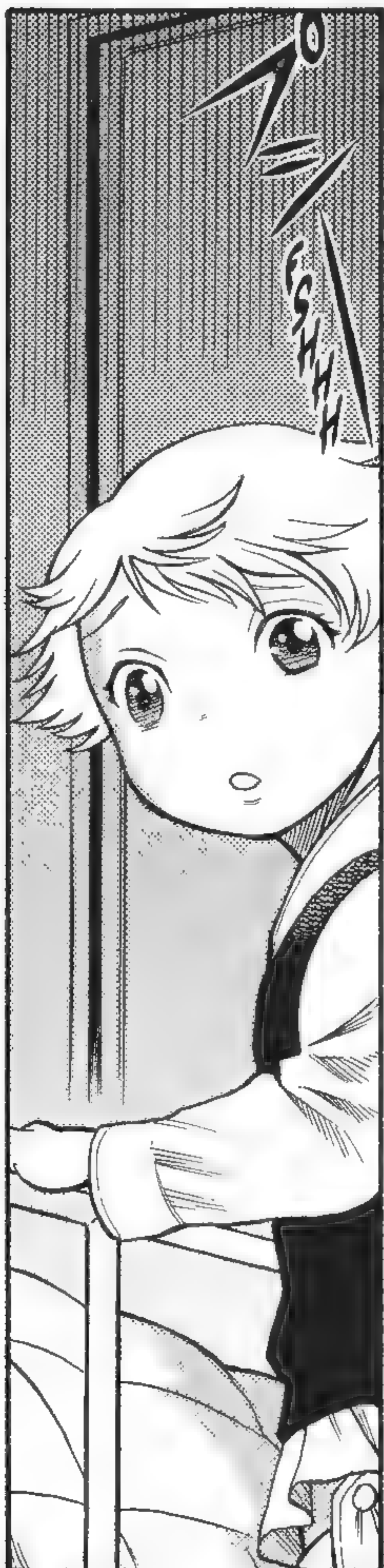
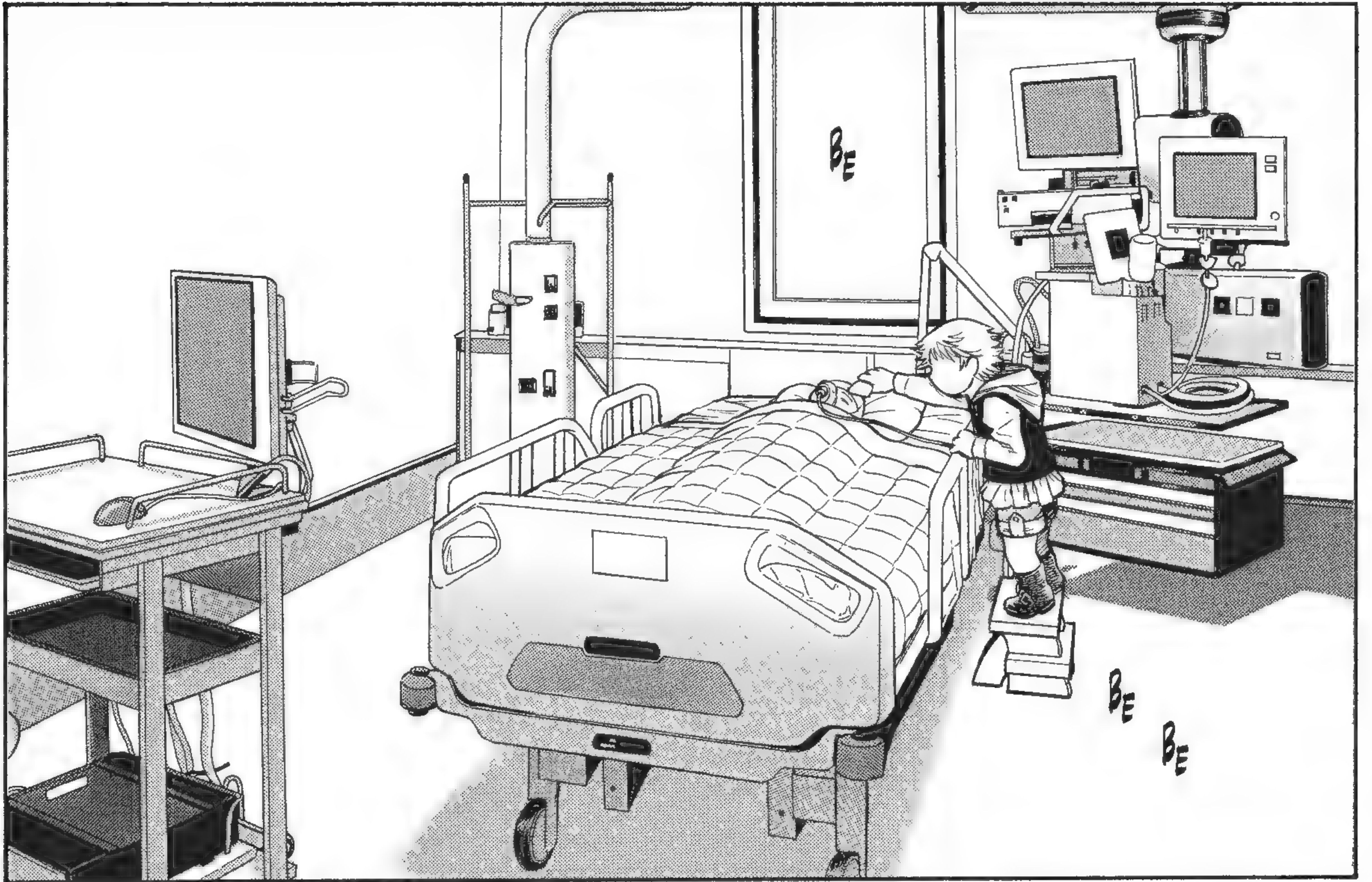
AKIRA
...

ANGIE
IS
GONE.

HIS
QUARTERS
HAVE BEEN
CLEANED OUT.
NO ONE
NOTICED
WHEN OR
HOW
HE LEFT.



YOU
GOT US
MORE
THAN
ONCE IN
TRAINING
WITH
THAT
TRICK.





YUKIHI...
WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE?



HIME-
SAMA
SAID SHE
HAD TO
LEAVE TO
DO SOME
WORK...

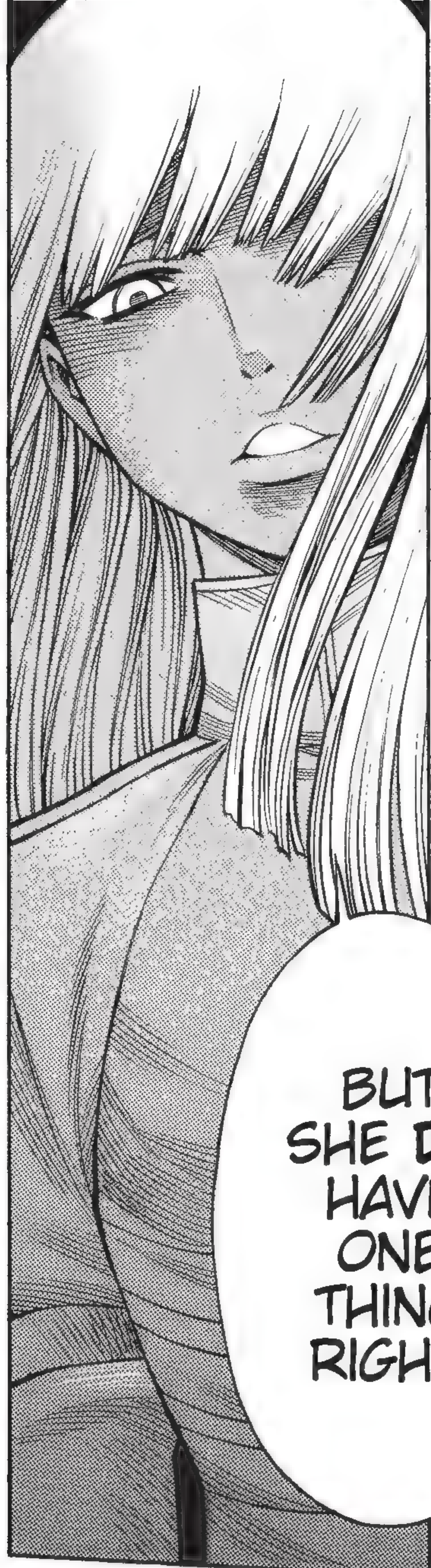
SO SHE
ASKED ME
TO LOOK
AFTER
YUKI-
ONEE-
CHAMA
INSTEAD.



AHH...
SO
HIME-
SAMA
WILL BE
COMING
BACK
SOON.

OH
WELL.
I
GUESS...





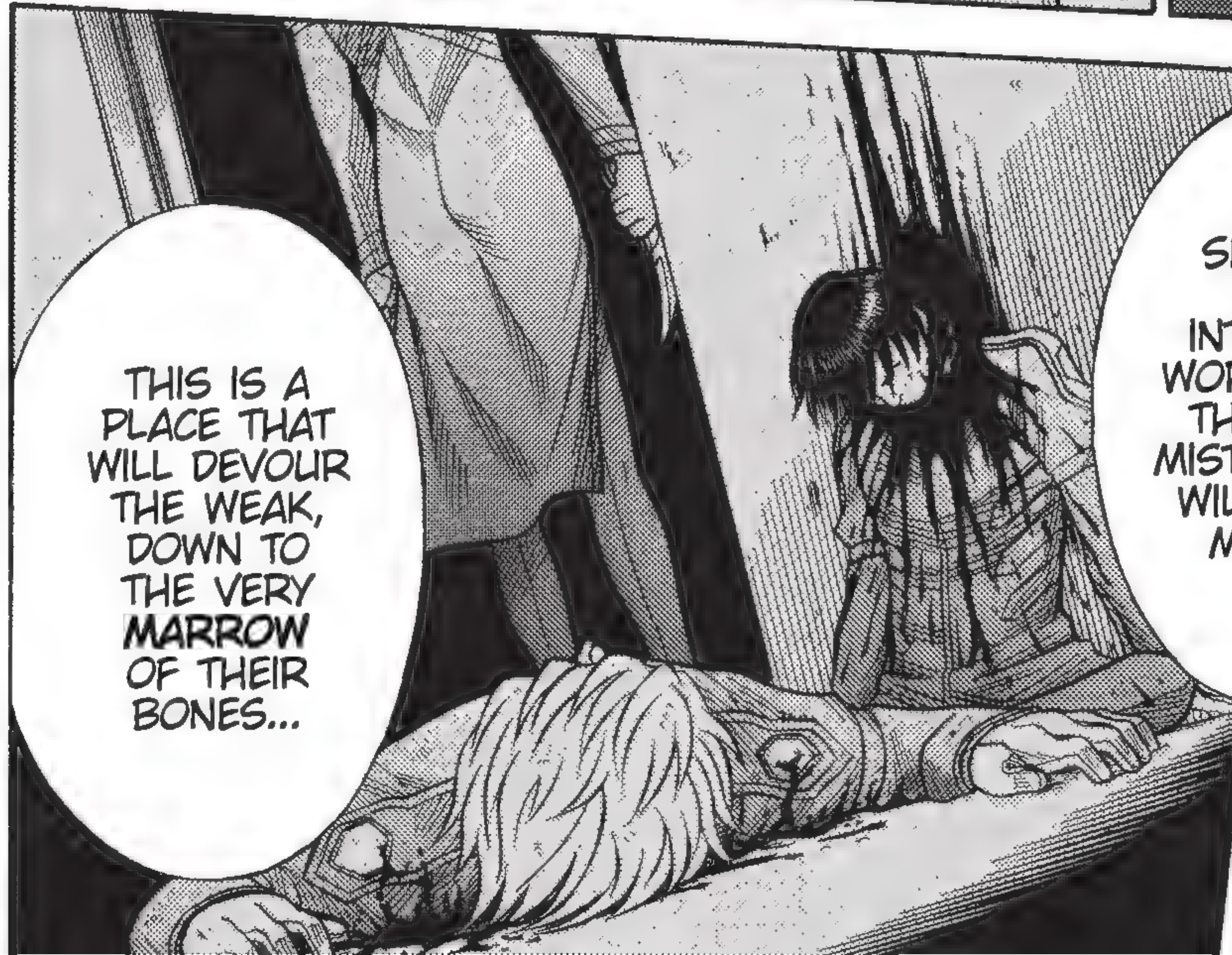
BUT SHE DID HAVE ONE THING RIGHT.



TATIANNA MAY BE A COMPLETE BITCH...



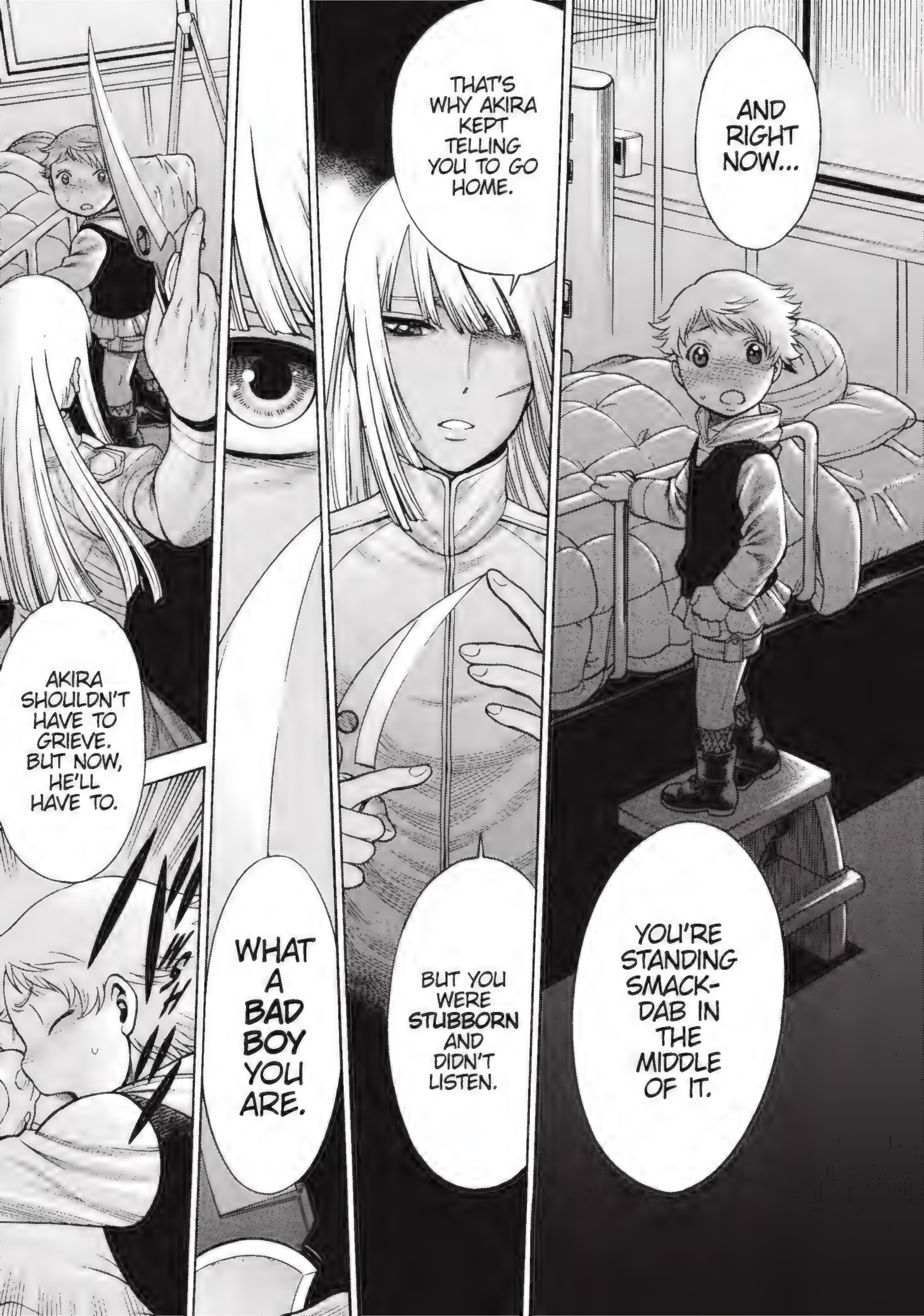
...I'LL JUST HAVE TO BE QUICK.



THIS IS A PLACE THAT WILL DEVOUR THE WEAK, DOWN TO THE VERY MARROW OF THEIR BONES...



SETTING FOOT INTO THIS WORLD WAS THE LAST MISTAKE YOU WILL EVER MAKE...



THAT'S
WHY AKIRA
KEPT
TELLING
YOU TO GO
HOME.

AND
RIGHT
NOW...

AKIRA
SHOULDN'T
HAVE TO
GRIEVE.
BUT NOW,
HE'LL
HAVE TO.

WHAT
A
BAD
BOY
YOU
ARE.

BUT YOU
WERE
STUBBORN
AND
DIDN'T
LISTEN.

YOU'RE
STANDING
SMACK-
DAB IN
THE
MIDDLE
OF IT.

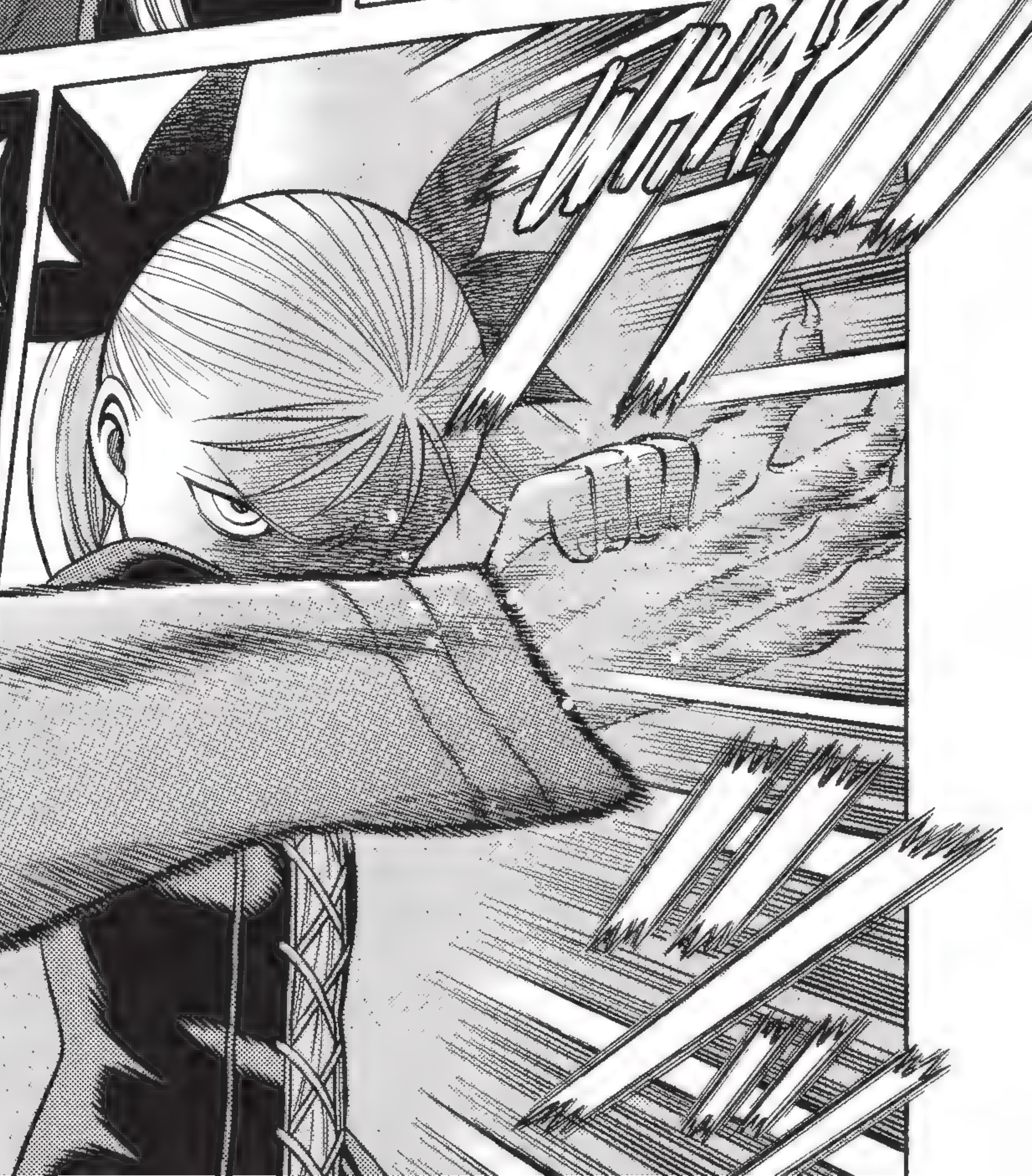
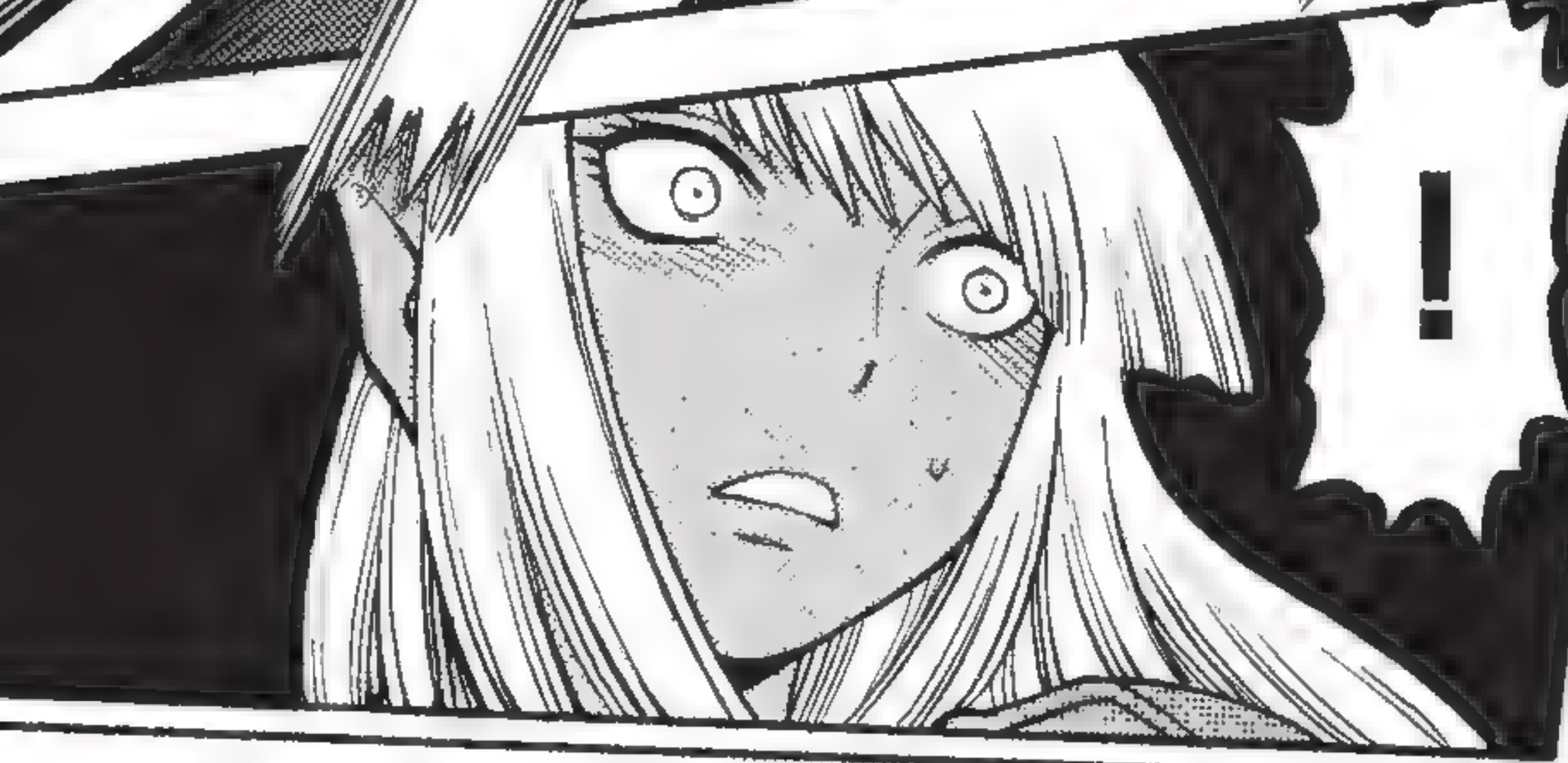
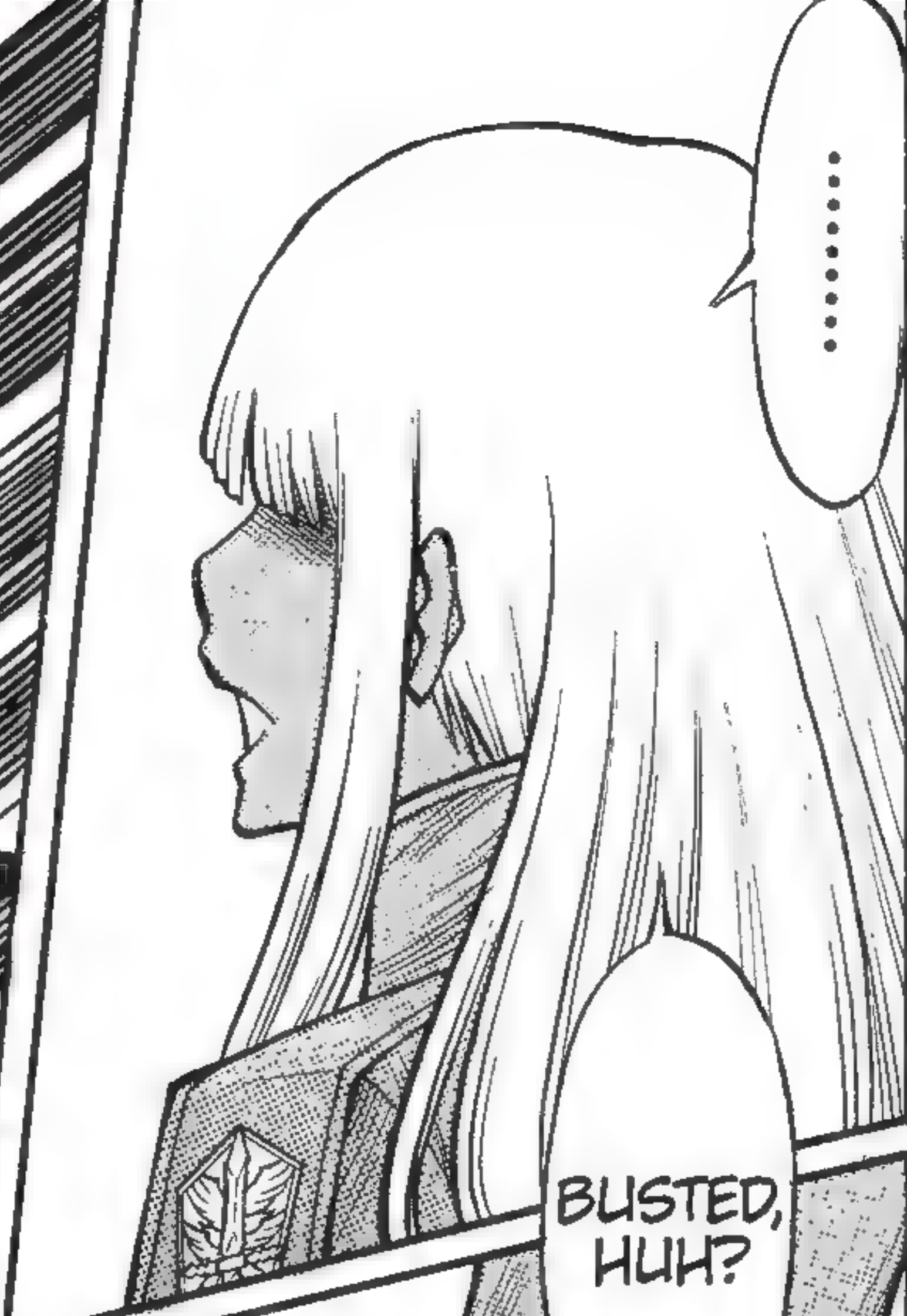


YOU
CUR...

SO IT
WAS
YOU
WHO
DID
THIS!



HOLD
IT.





I SAID
THAT IF
I EVER
DISCOV-
ERED
WHO
HURT
YUKI...


WHUNCH

I'D RIP
THEM
APART
MYSELF
!!

FWOOO

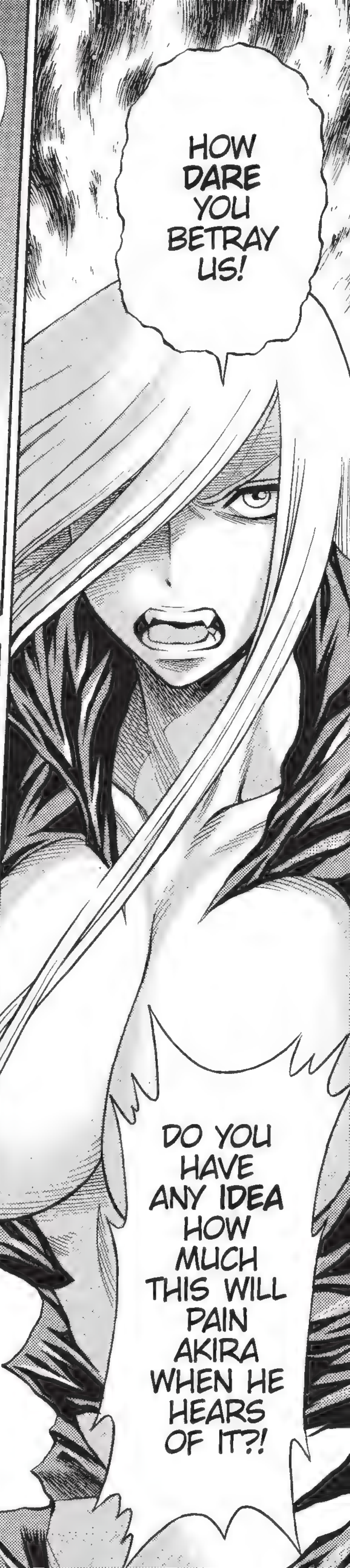
PRIN-
CESS
...

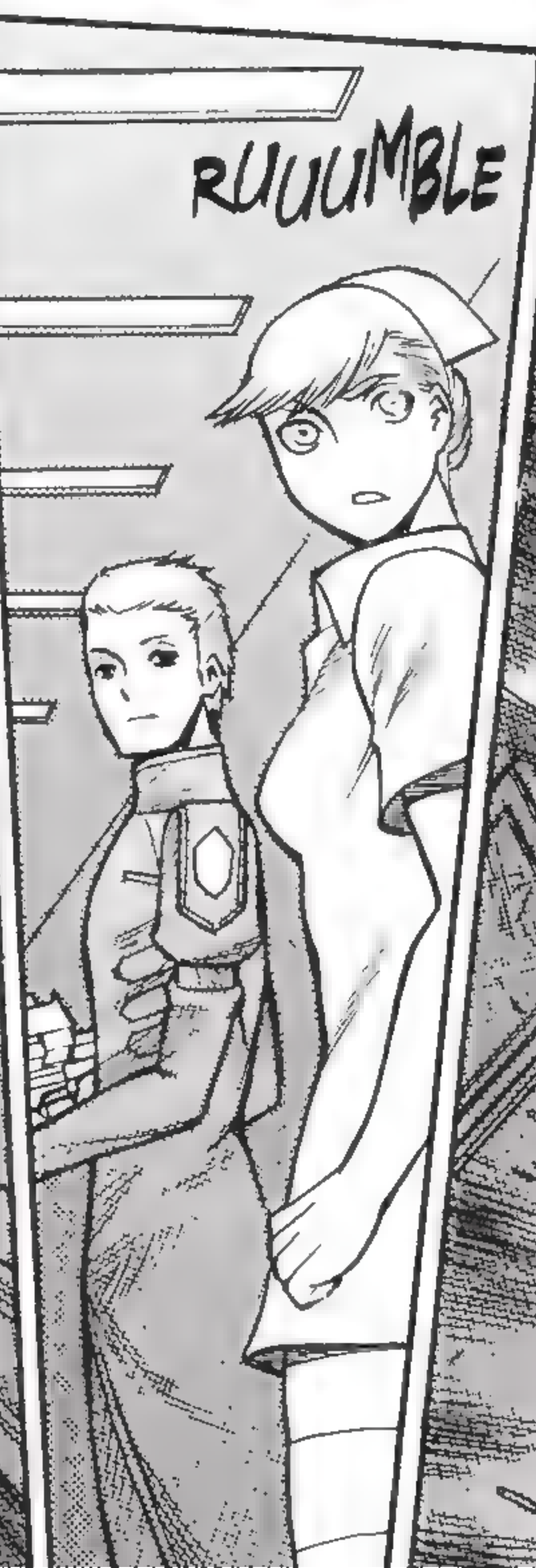
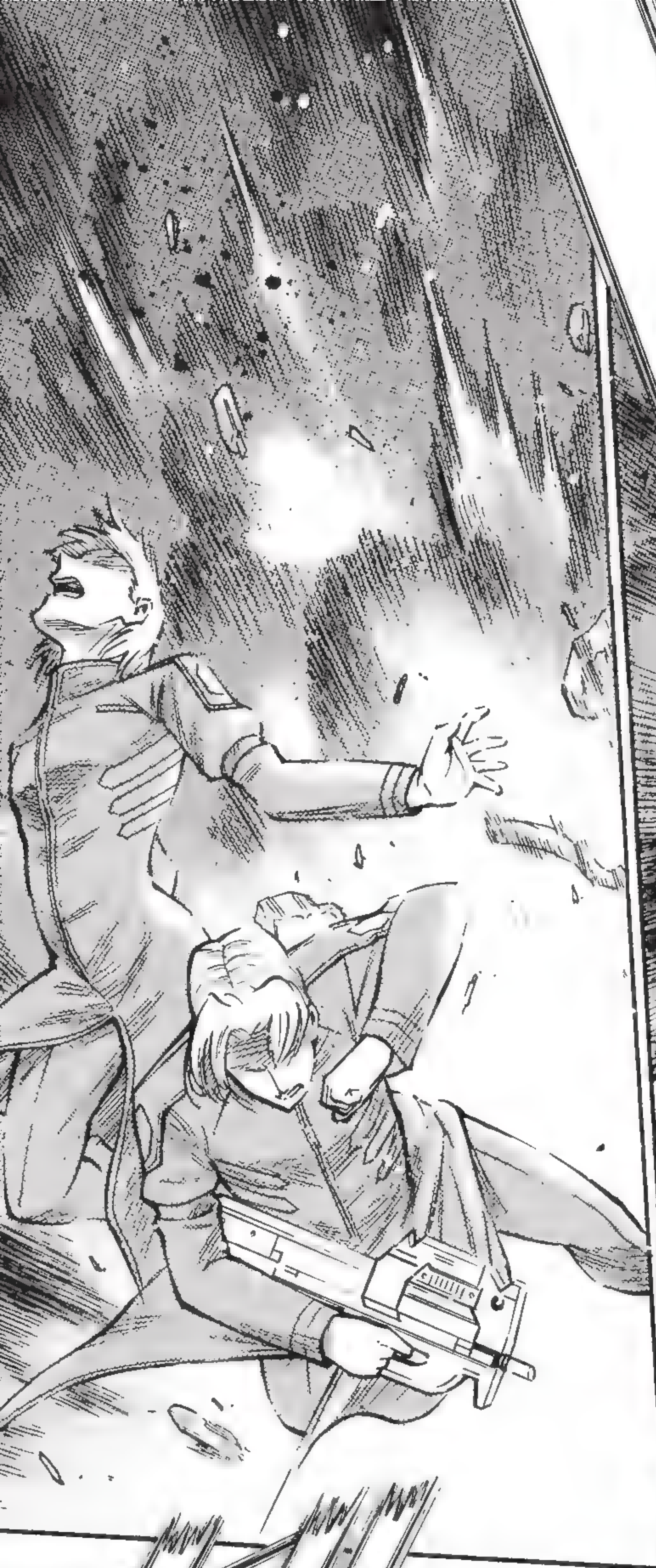
YOUR
FORM...

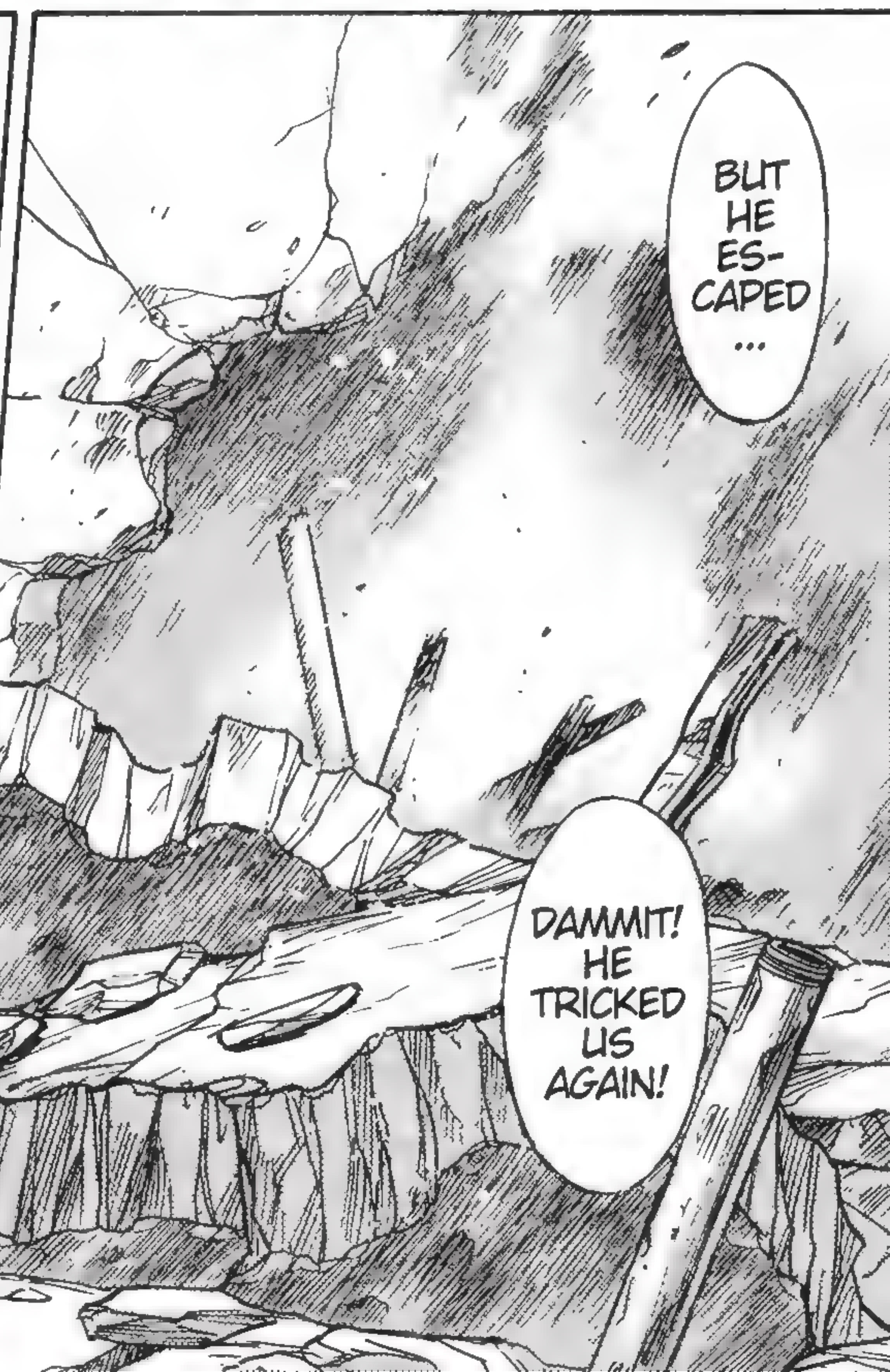
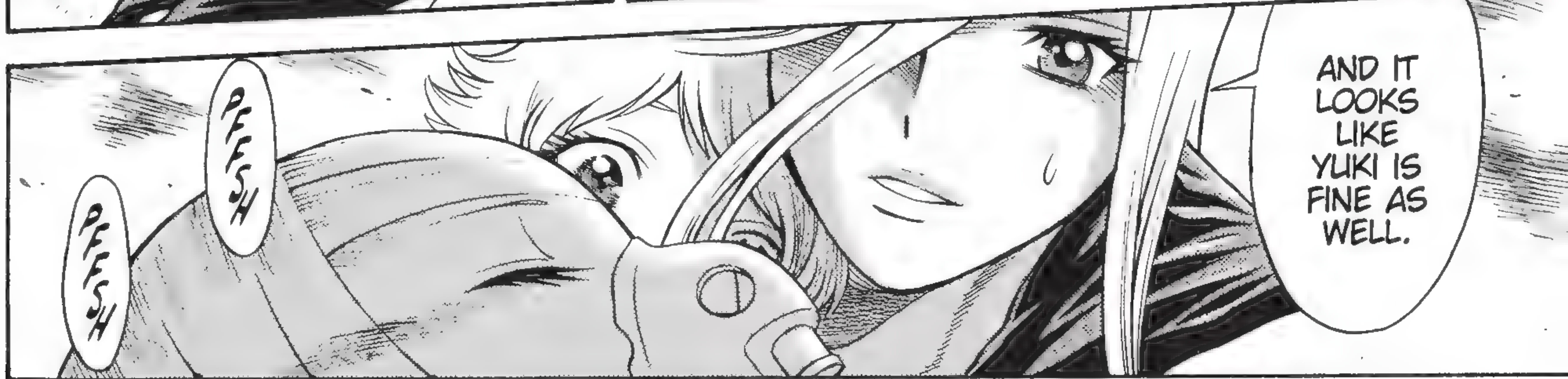
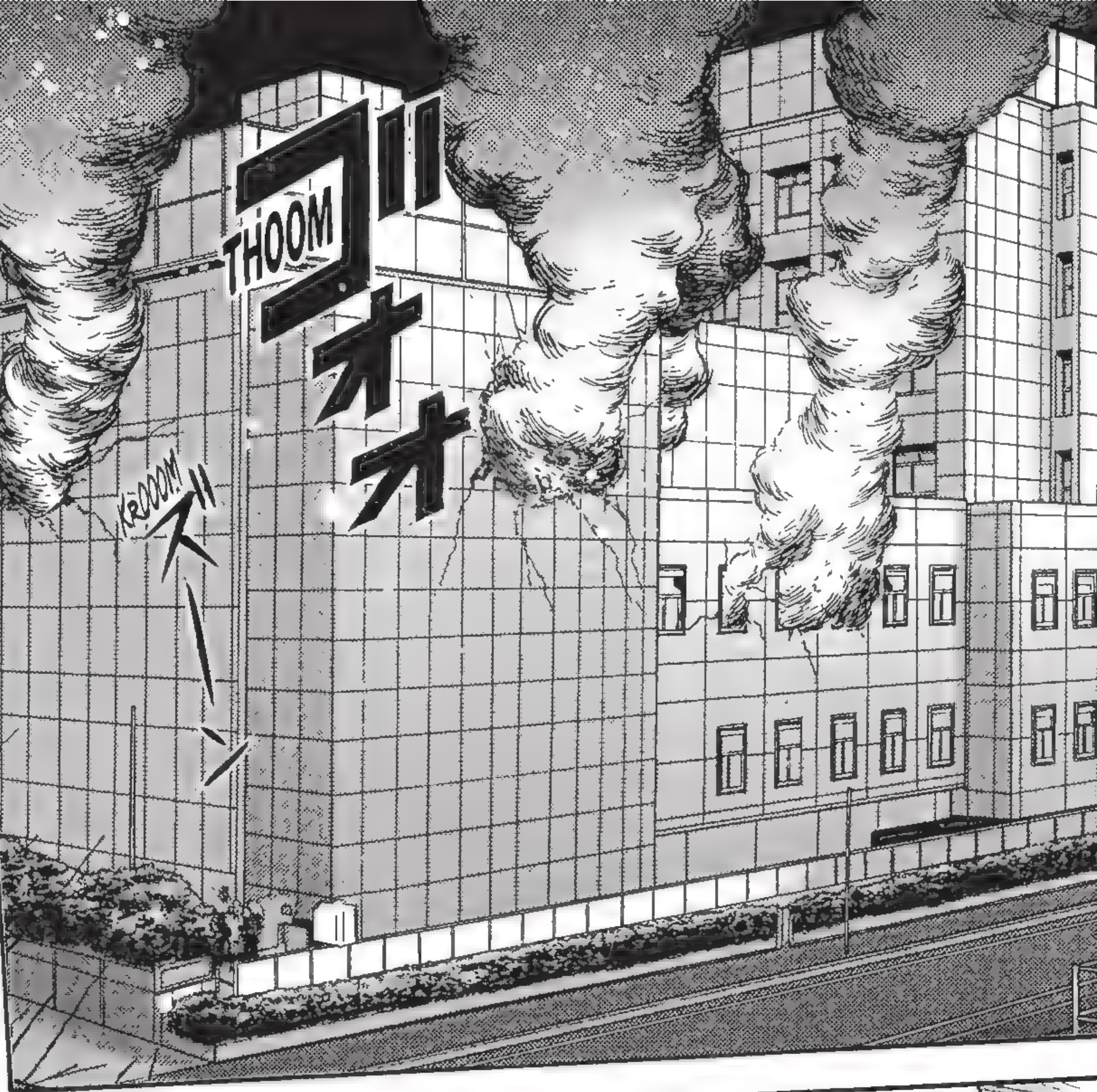
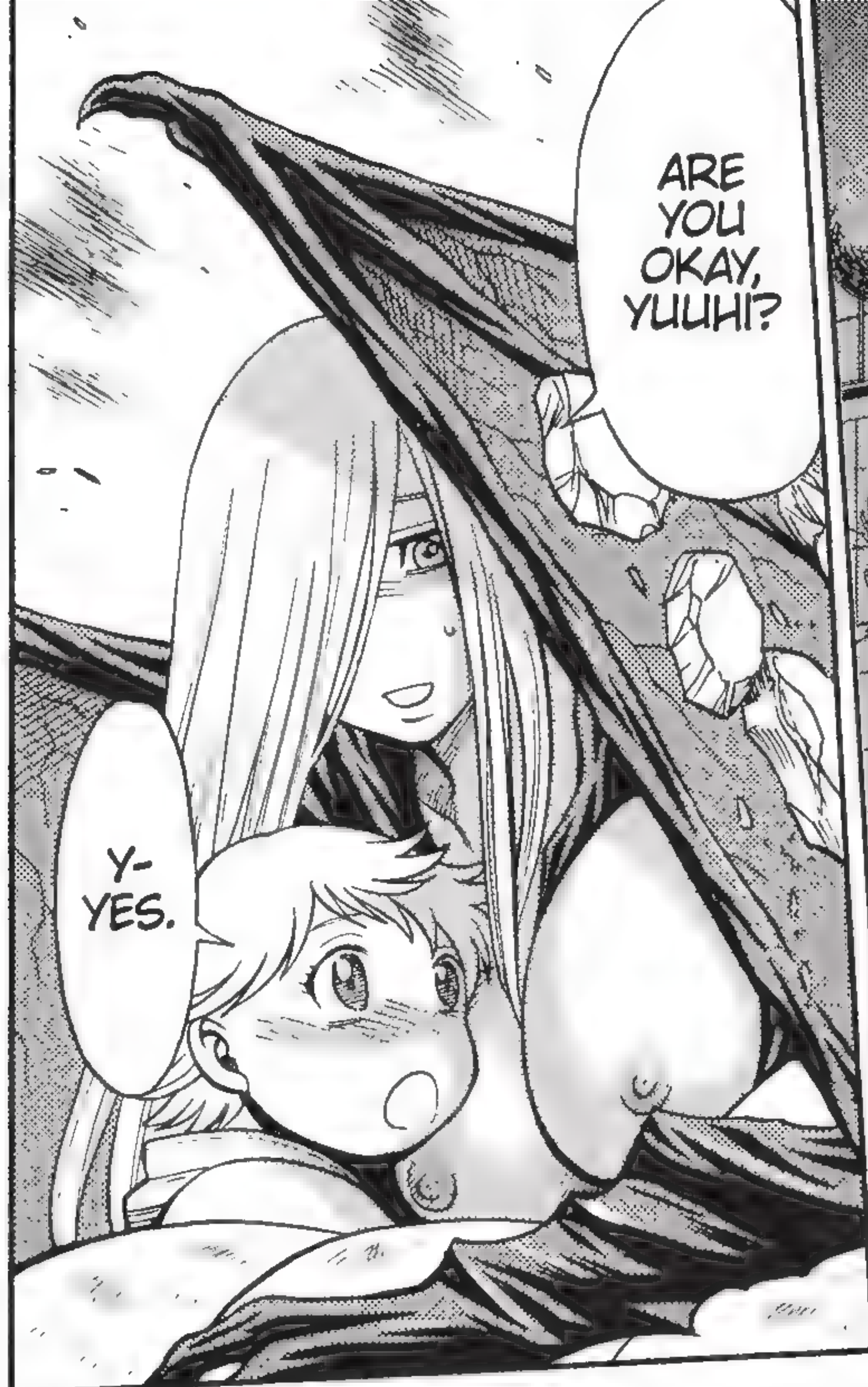


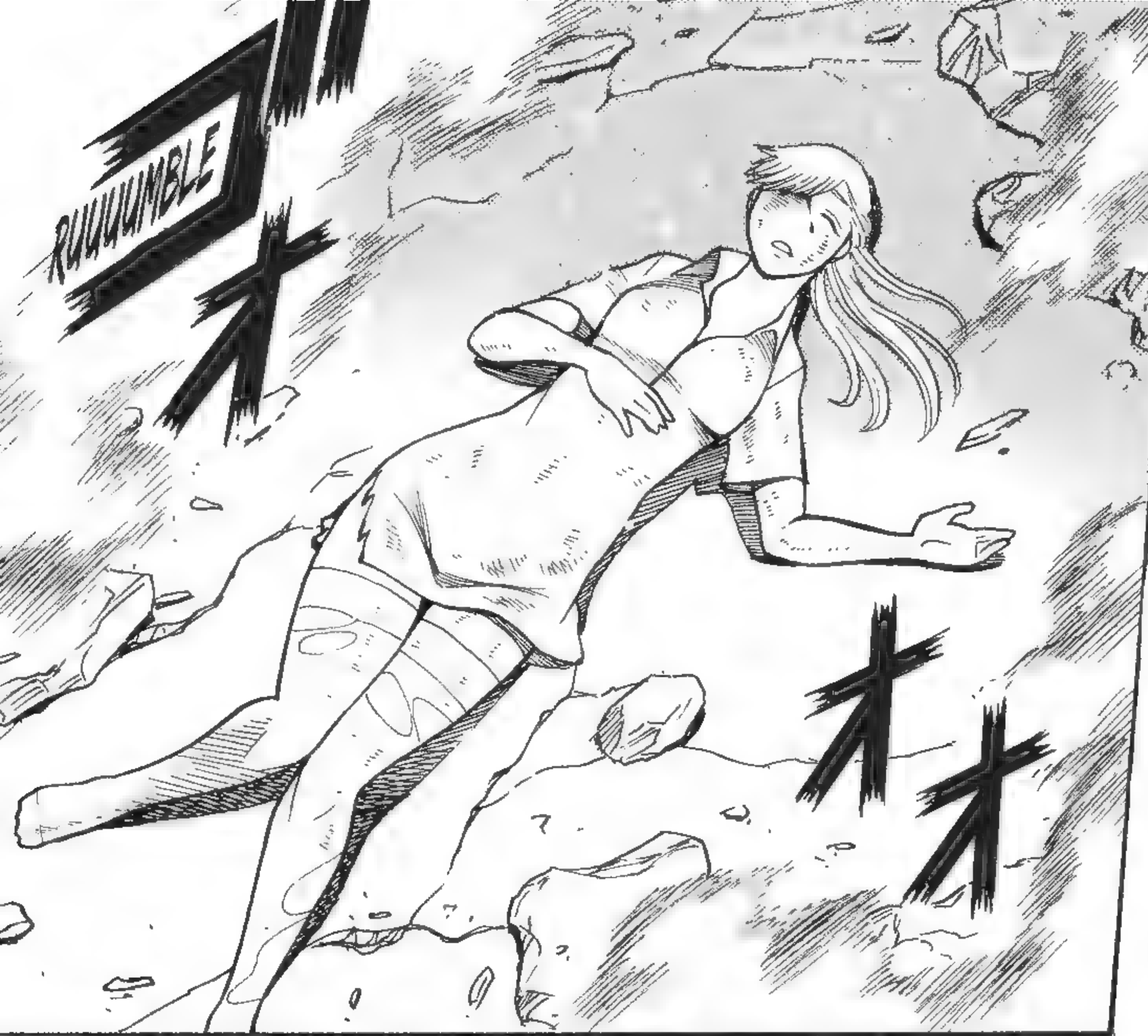
SO THAT'S
THE SECRET...
THE THREE
LORDS SO
DESPERATELY
WANTED TO
FIND OUT...

**YOUR
TRUE
FORM.**

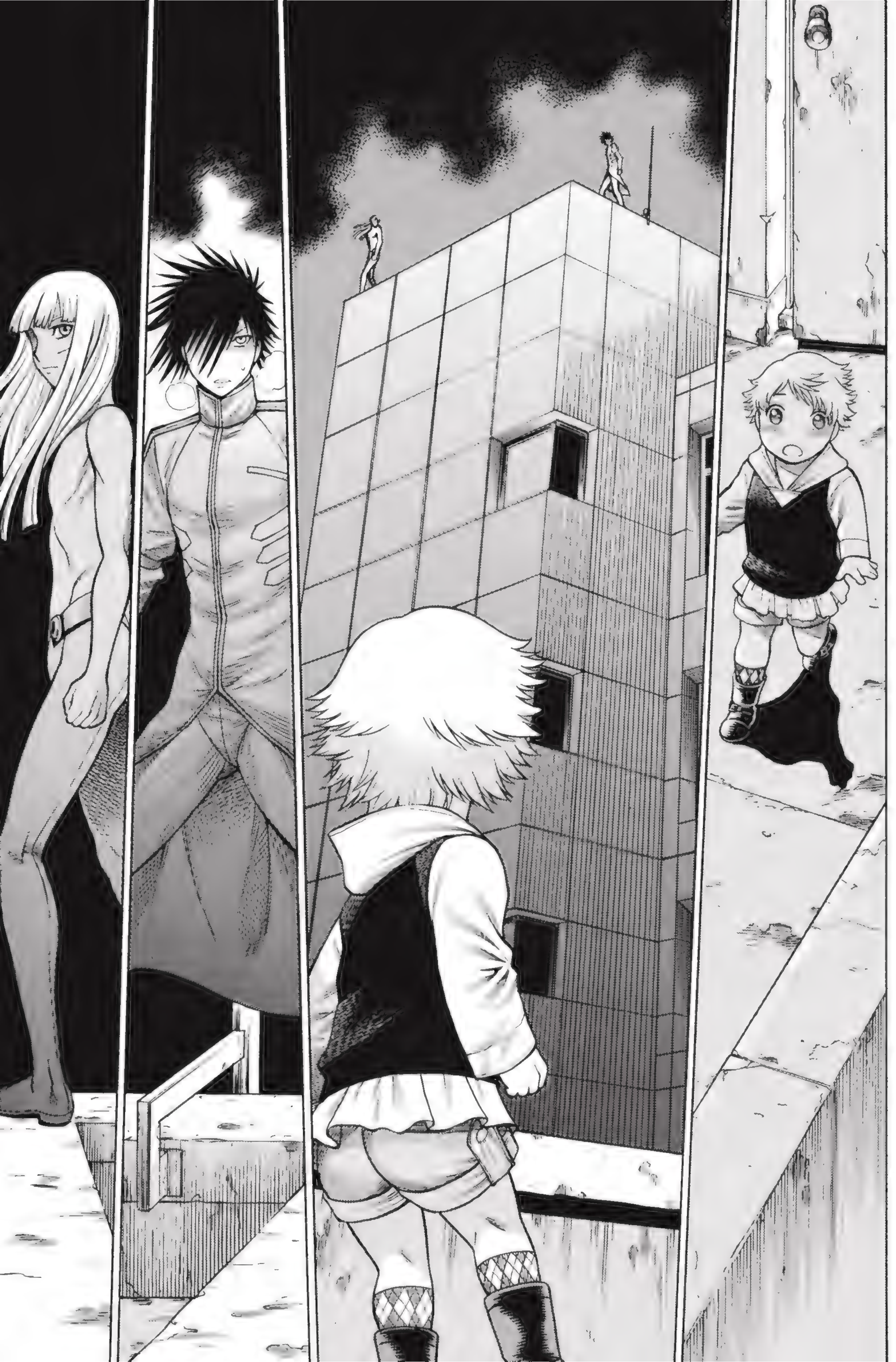


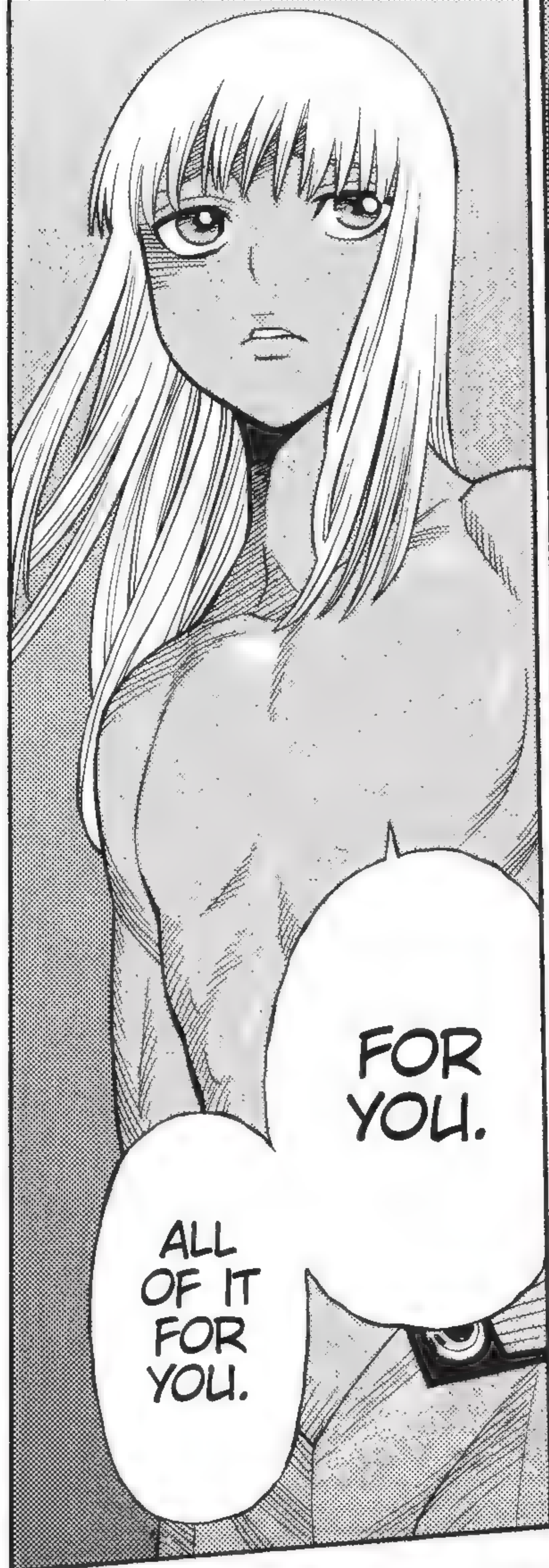












FOR
YOU.

ALL
OF IT
FOR
YOU.

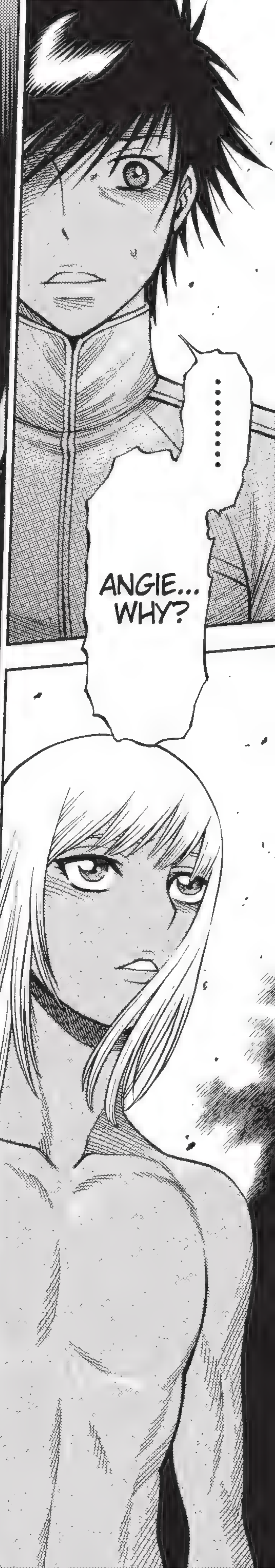


THAT'S
MORE
THAN
ENOUGH
REASON
FOR
ME.


I
NEVER
NEEDED
ANY-
THING
ELSE.



WHY,
GOD-
DAMMIT
?!



ANGIE...
WHY?



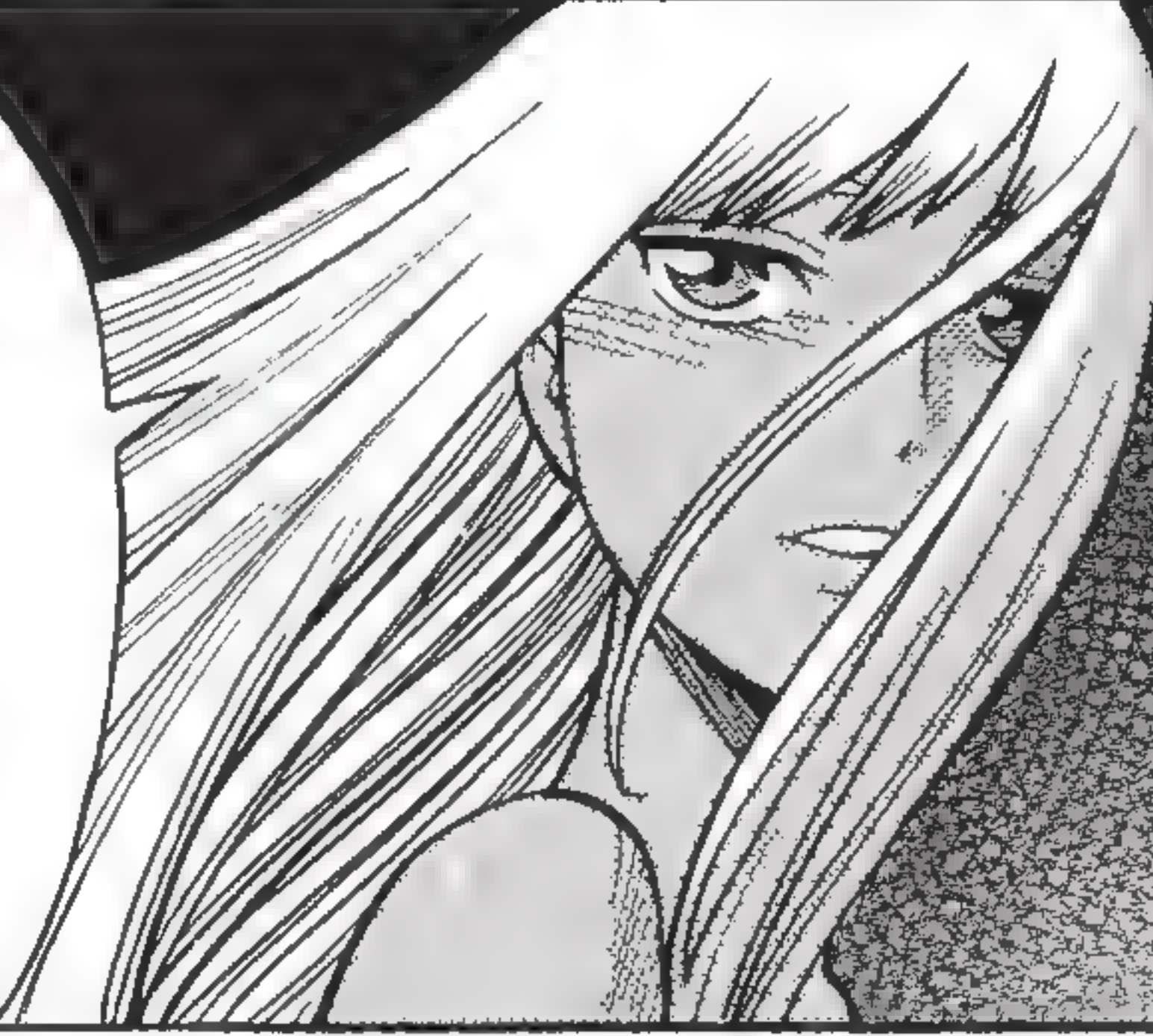
HOW
THE
HELL
DO YOU
FIGURE
THAT'S
"ALL
FOR
ME"?!

SO YOU
USED
RYOHEI
AND YUKI,
AND THEN
TRIED TO
KILL THEM
BOTH...?



WHAT
WISH
?!

I WAS
JUST
TRYING TO
GRANT
THE WISH
THAT THEY
BOTH
SHARE.



WITH THAT AS
THE ALTERNATIVE,
WHY NOT JUST
BECOME A
GAPING WOUND
AND GOUGE
OURSELVES INTO
YOUR SOUL FOR
ETERNITY...?

WE'RE ALL
DOOMED TO
FALL BY THE
WAYSIDE AND
FADE AWAY
UNTIL YOU'VE
FORGOTTEN
US ENTIRELY.

NONE OF
US WILL
EVER BE
THE MOST
PRECIOUS
PERSON
TO YOU...



I WOULD
RATHER
YOU HATE
ME THAN
FORGET
ME.

THE
SAME
GOES
FOR
ME.



THAT
WAY...

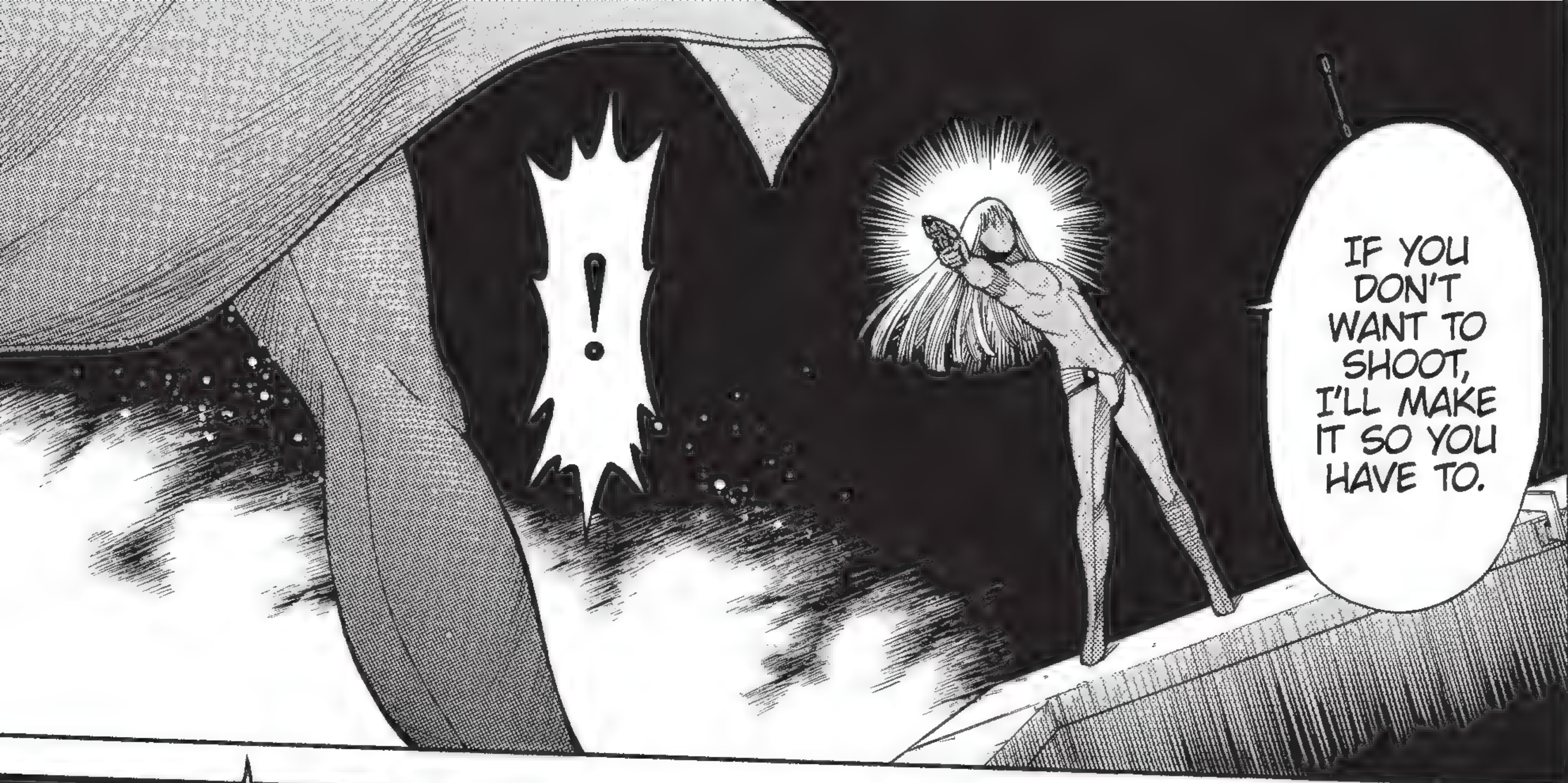
KILL
ME LIKE
YOU
KILLED
GRAHAM
AND
SANIN.

KILL
ME...

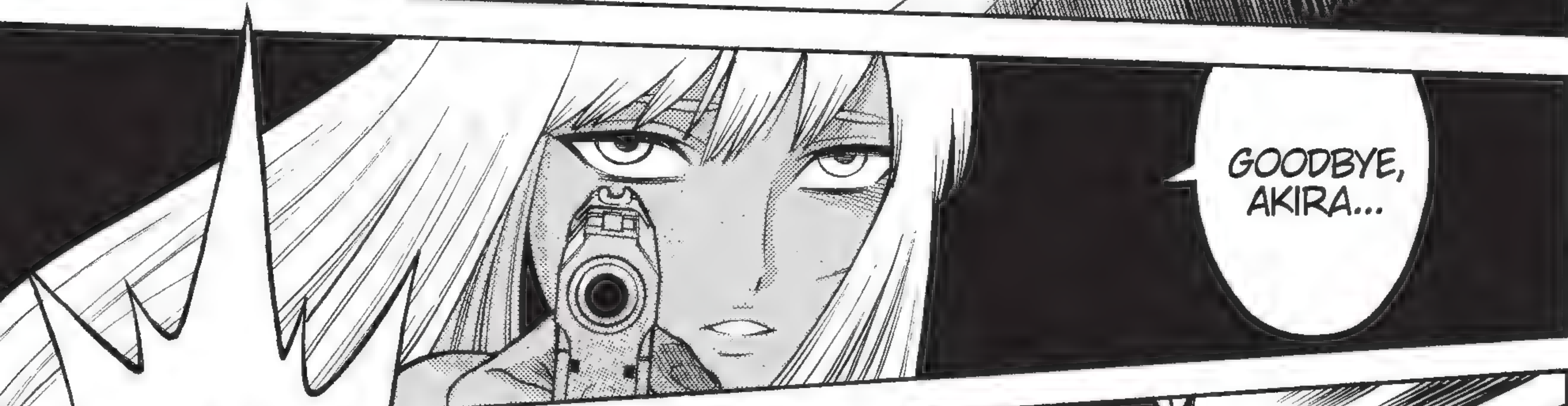
SO
SHOOT
ME,
AKIRA.

I CAN BE
A PART
OF YOU
FOREVER.

ANGIE!



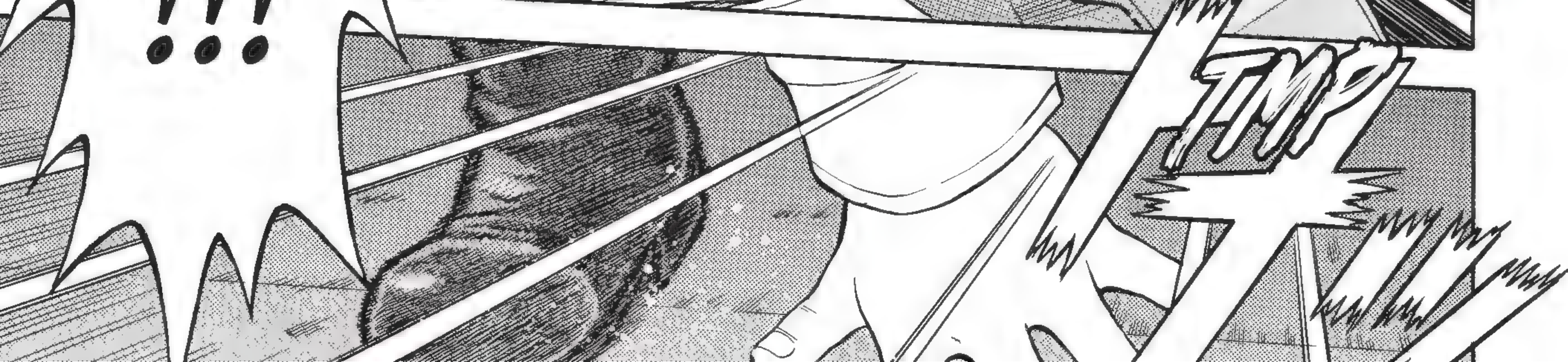
IF YOU
DON'T
WANT TO
SHOOT,
I'LL MAKE
IT SO YOU
HAVE TO.

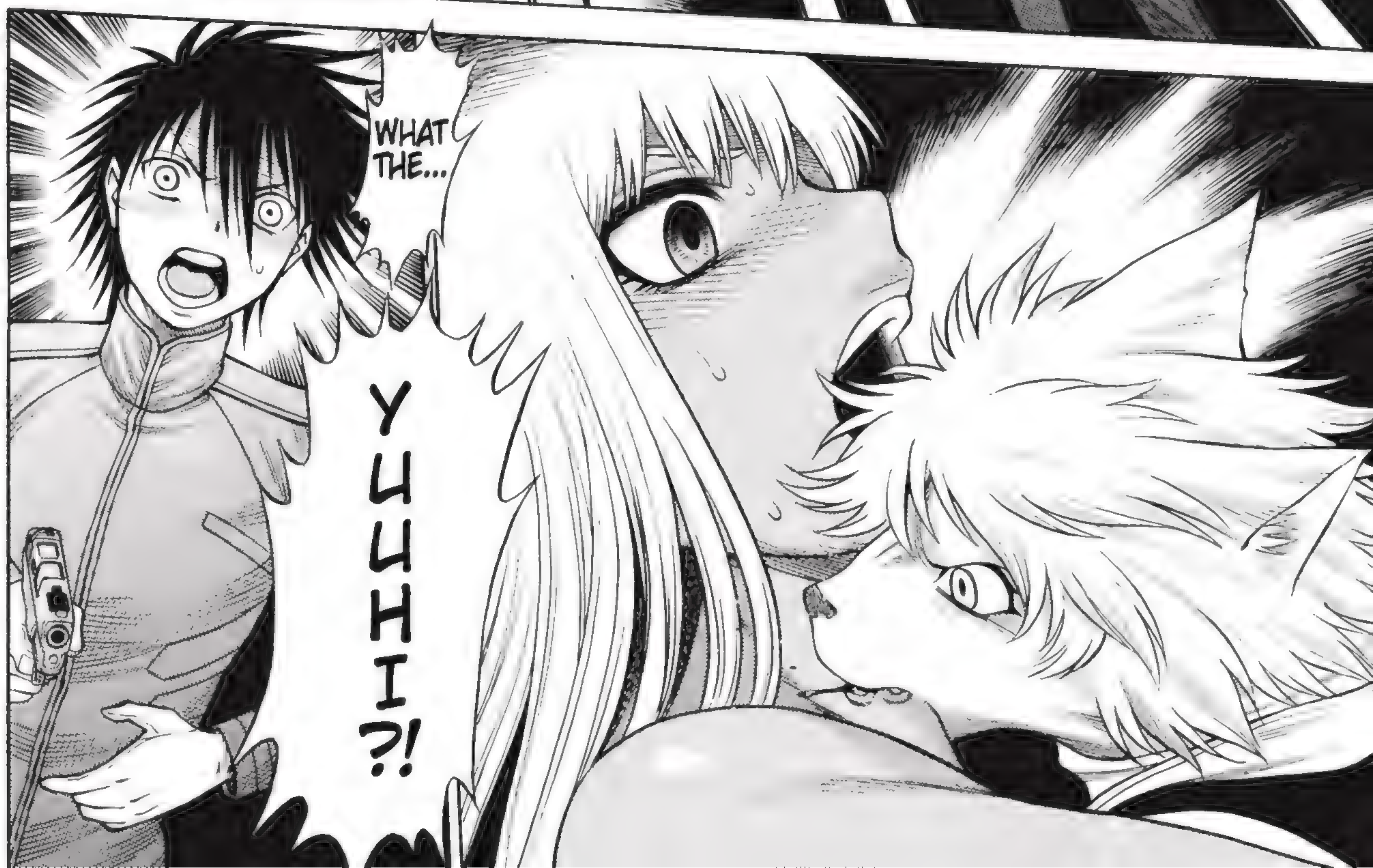
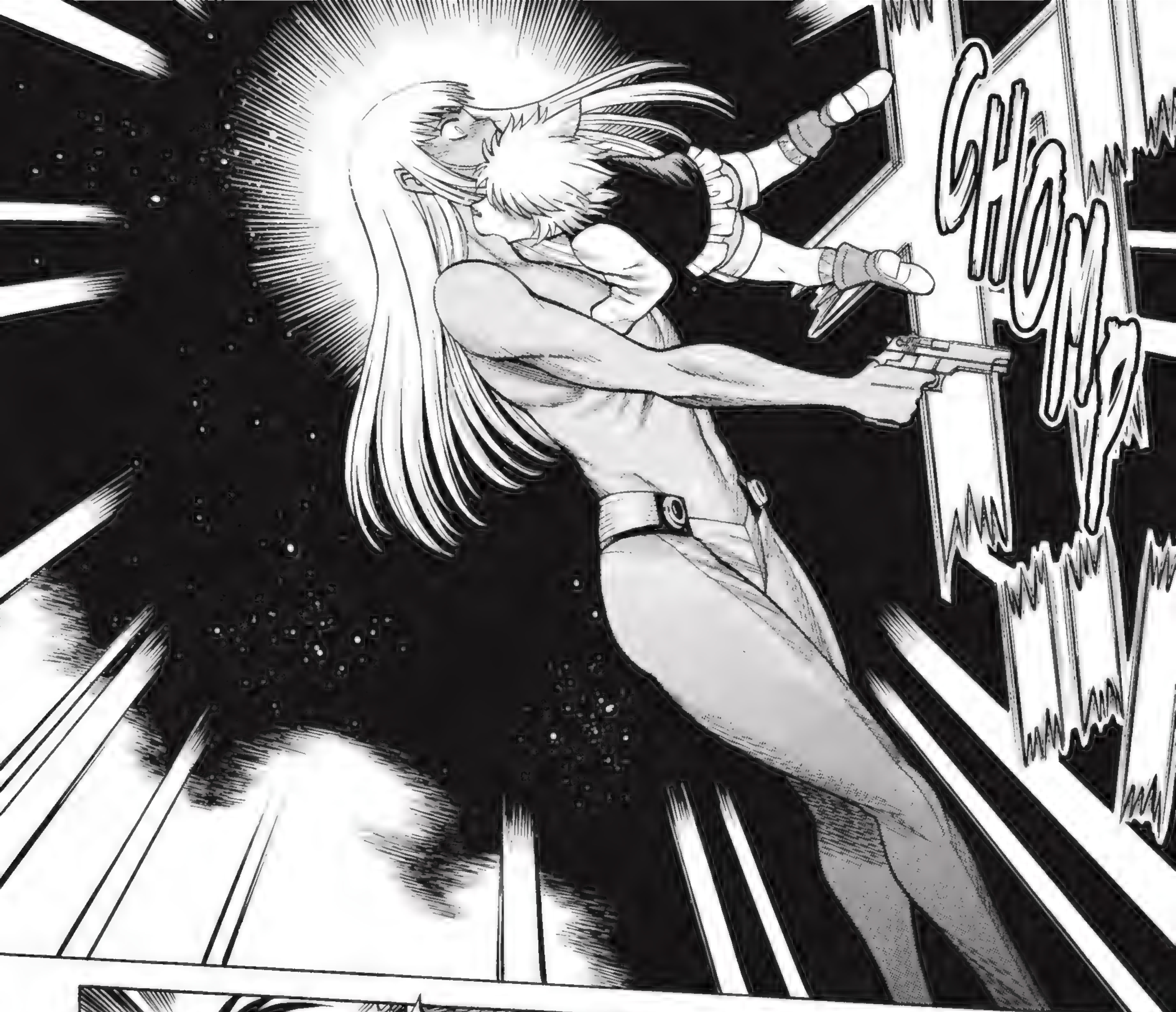


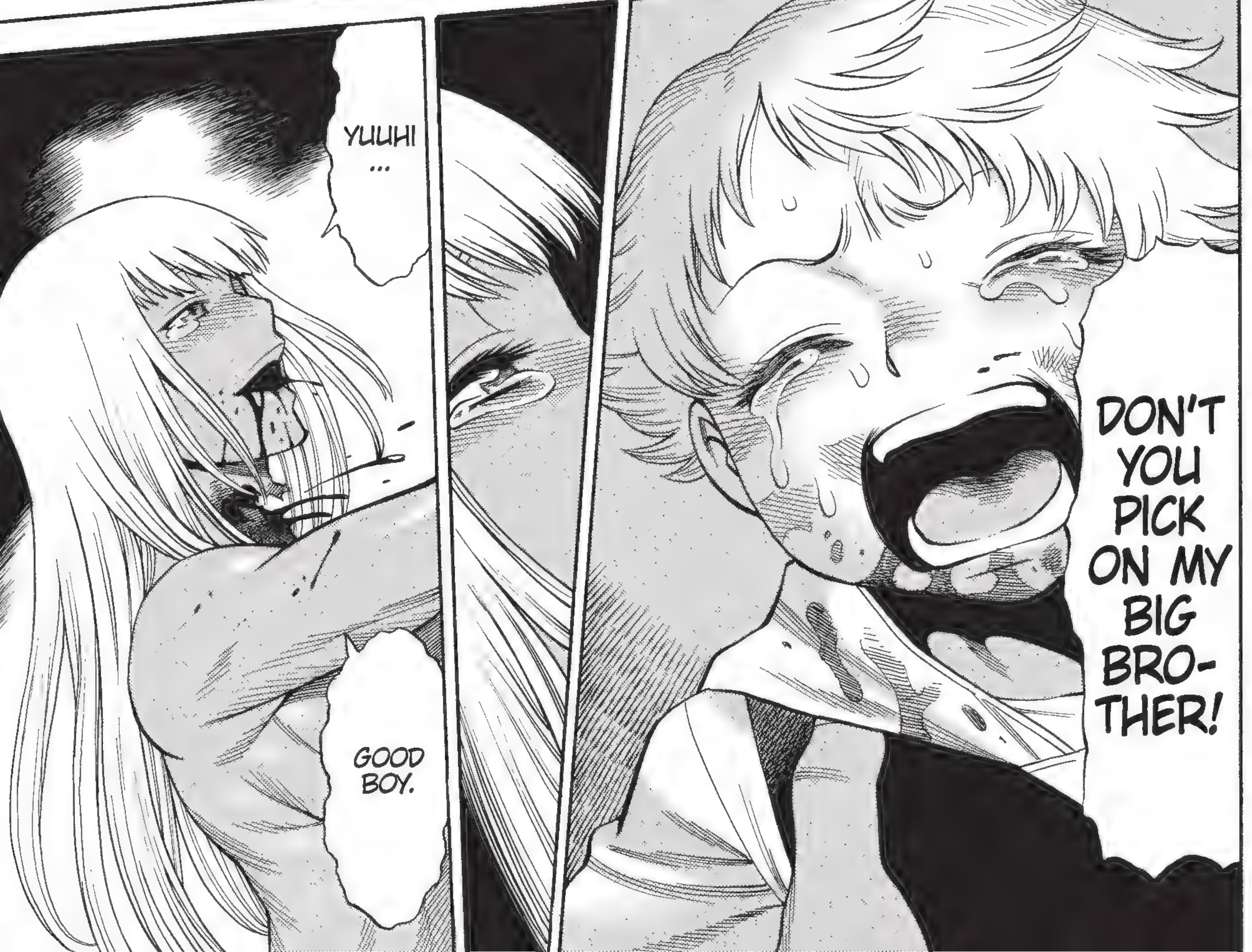
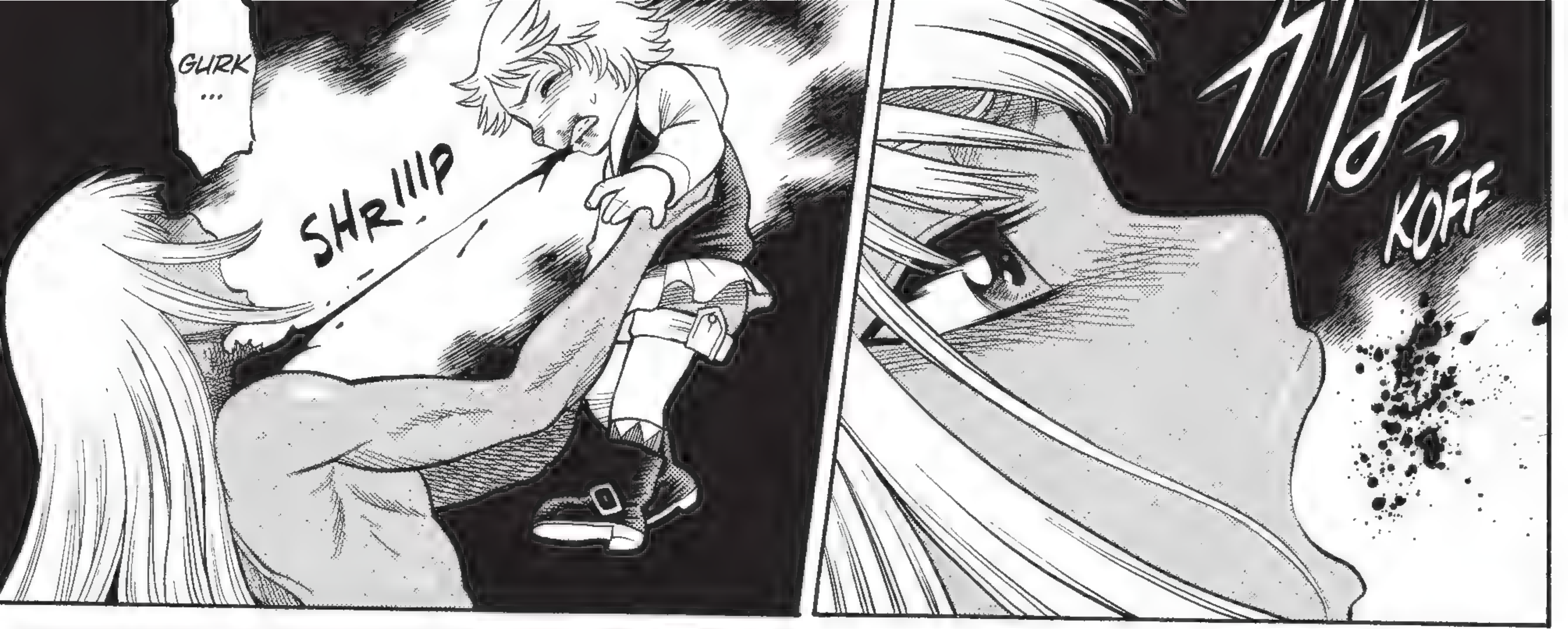
GOODBYE,
AKIRA...



ANGIE!!!







YOUR
BROTHER...

PROTECT...

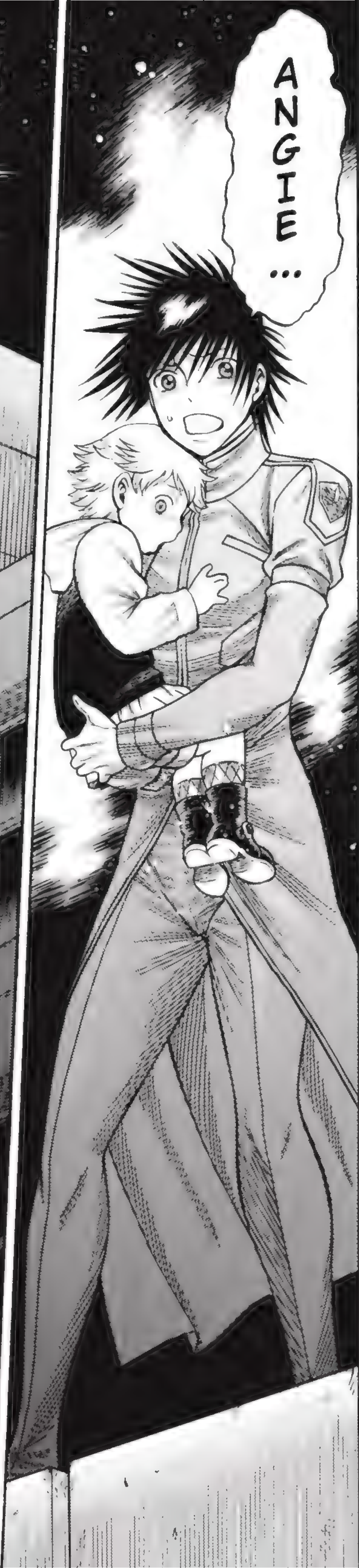


SPLASH

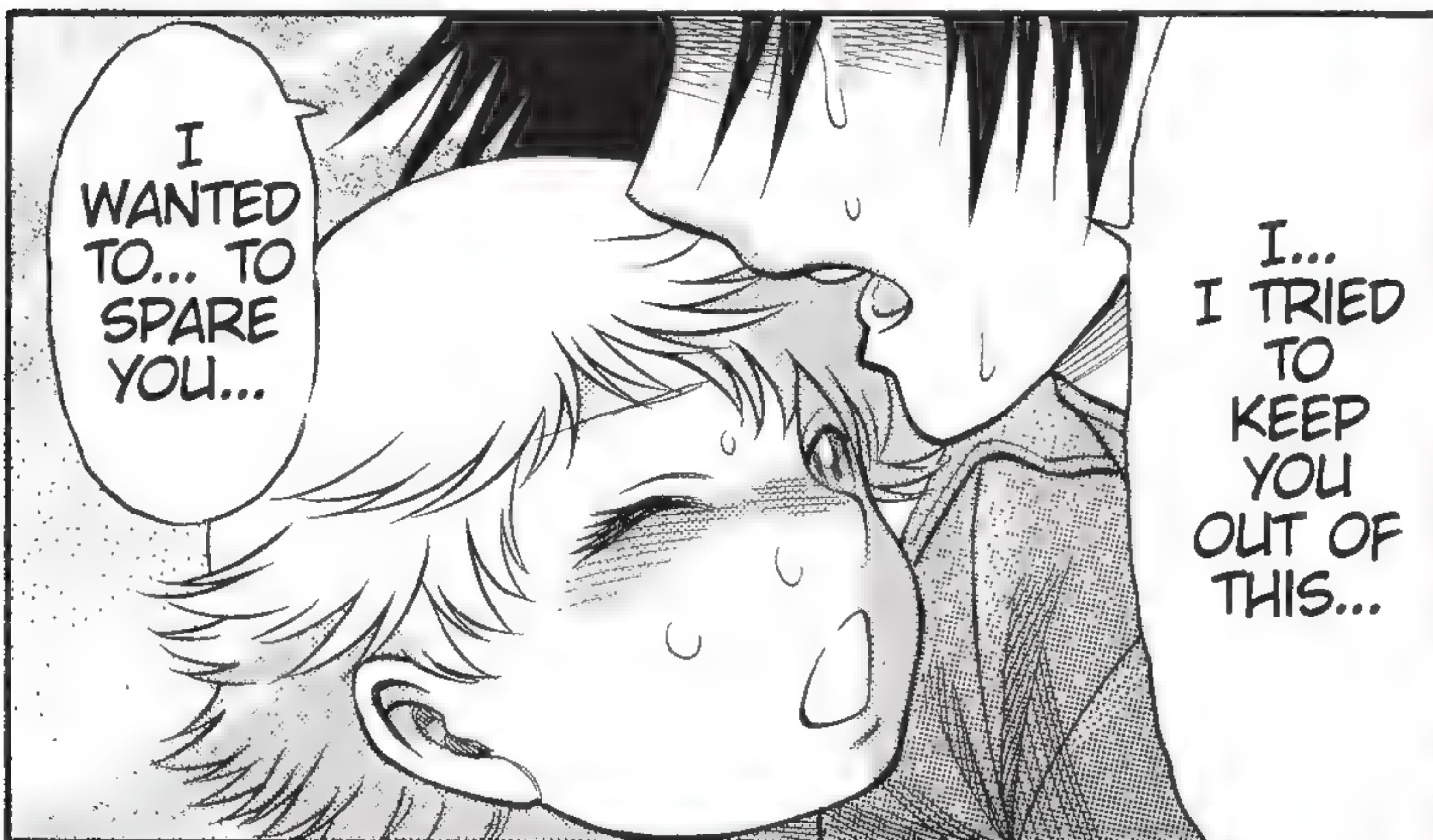
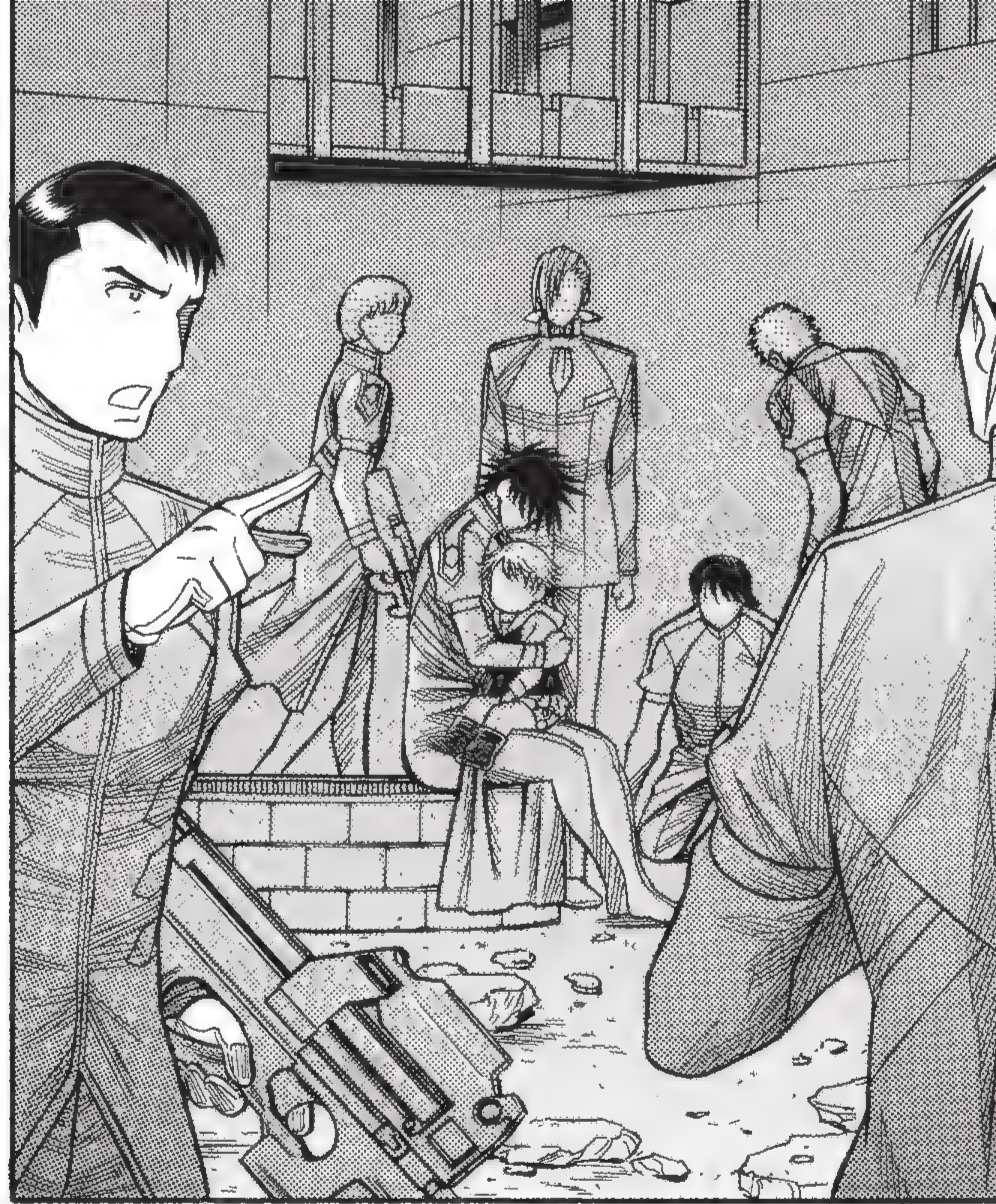
WSH

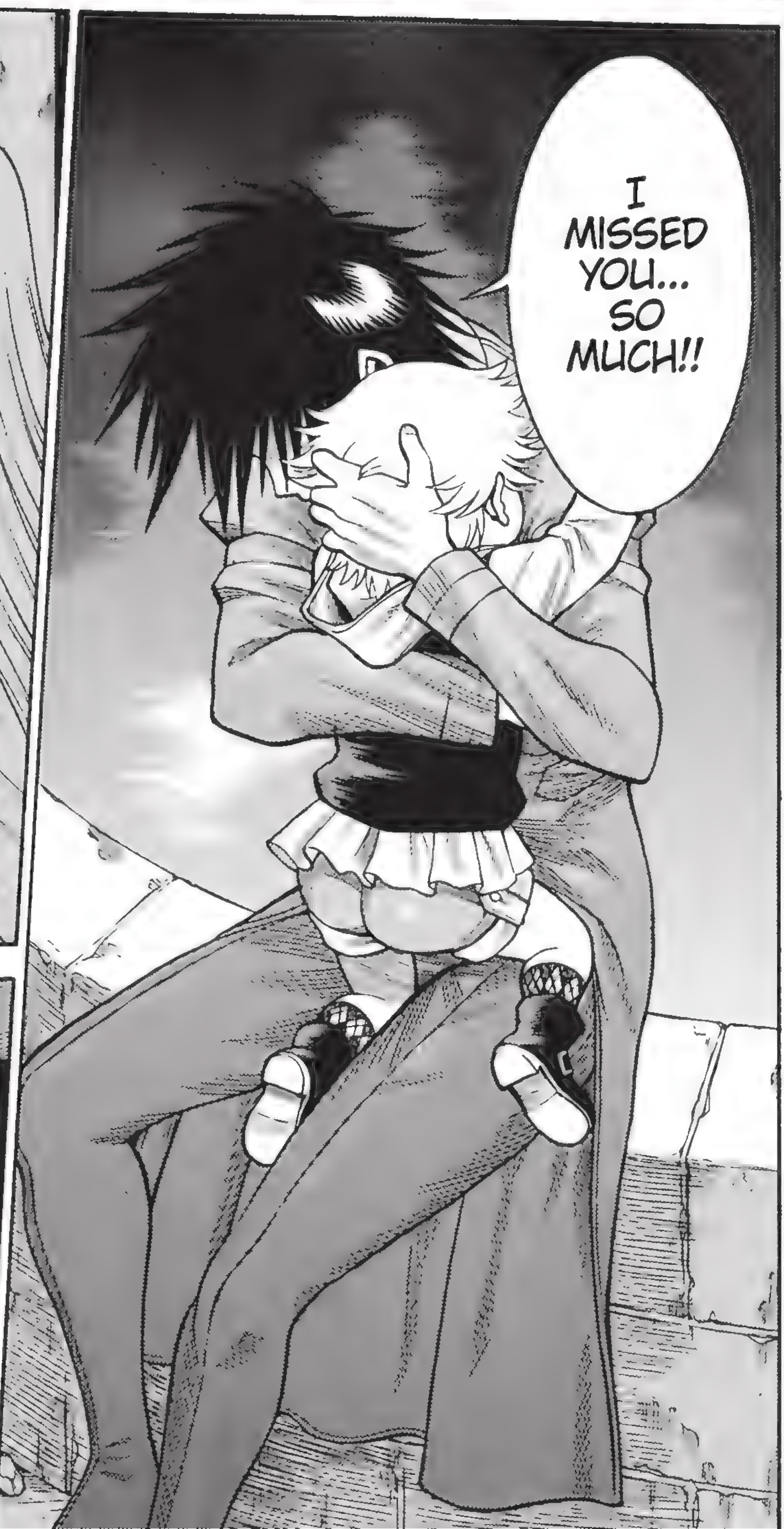
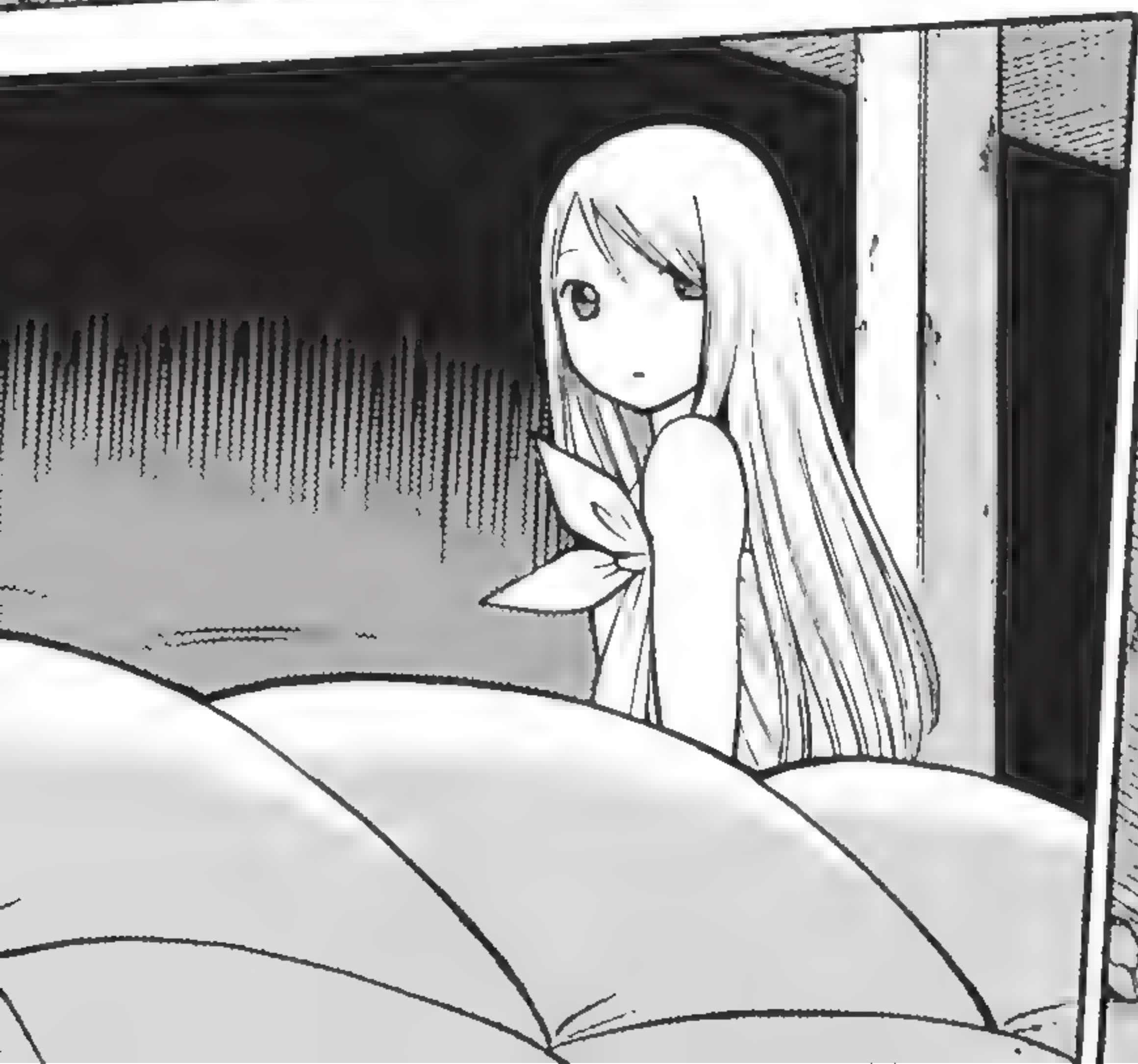
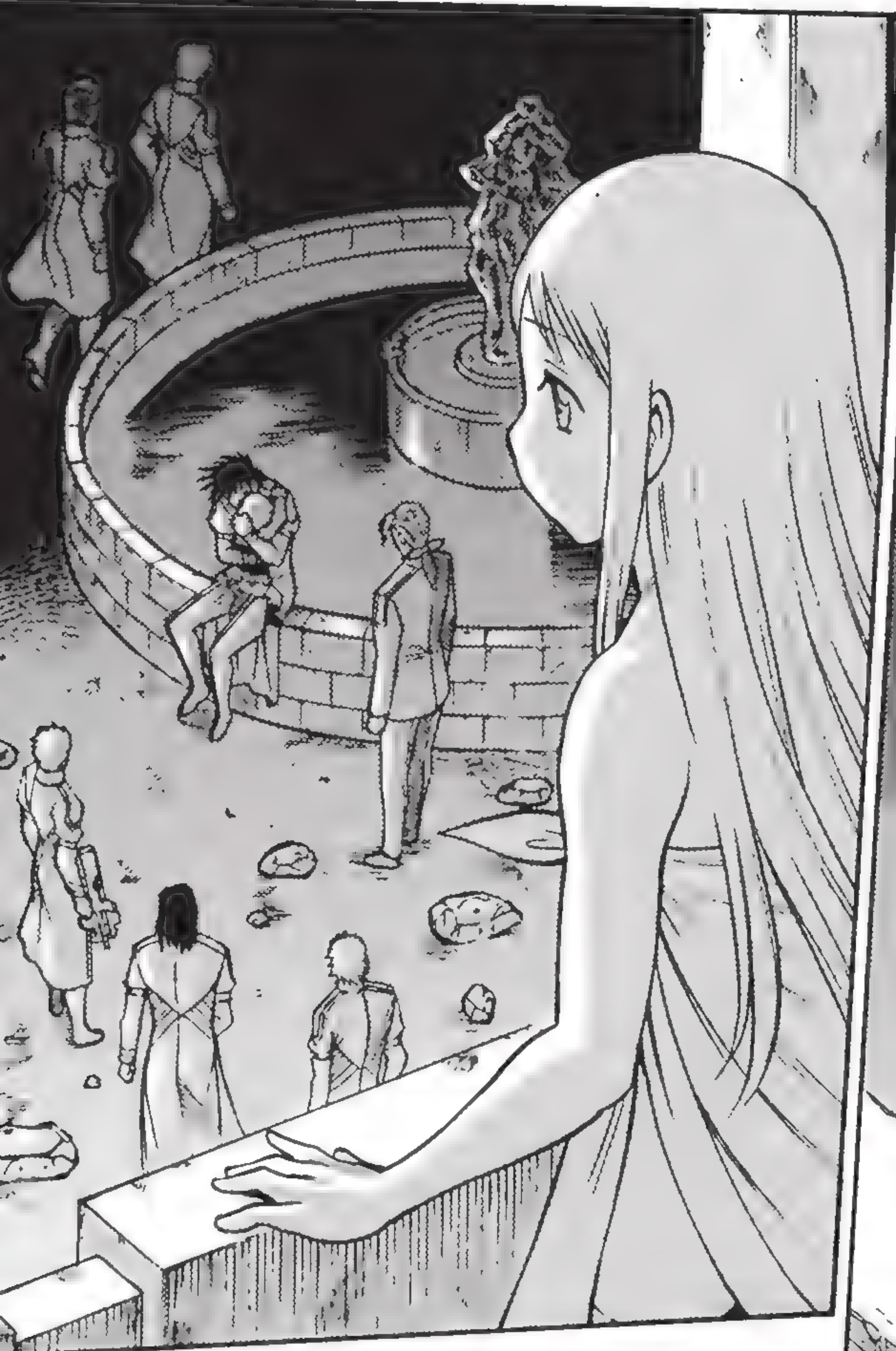
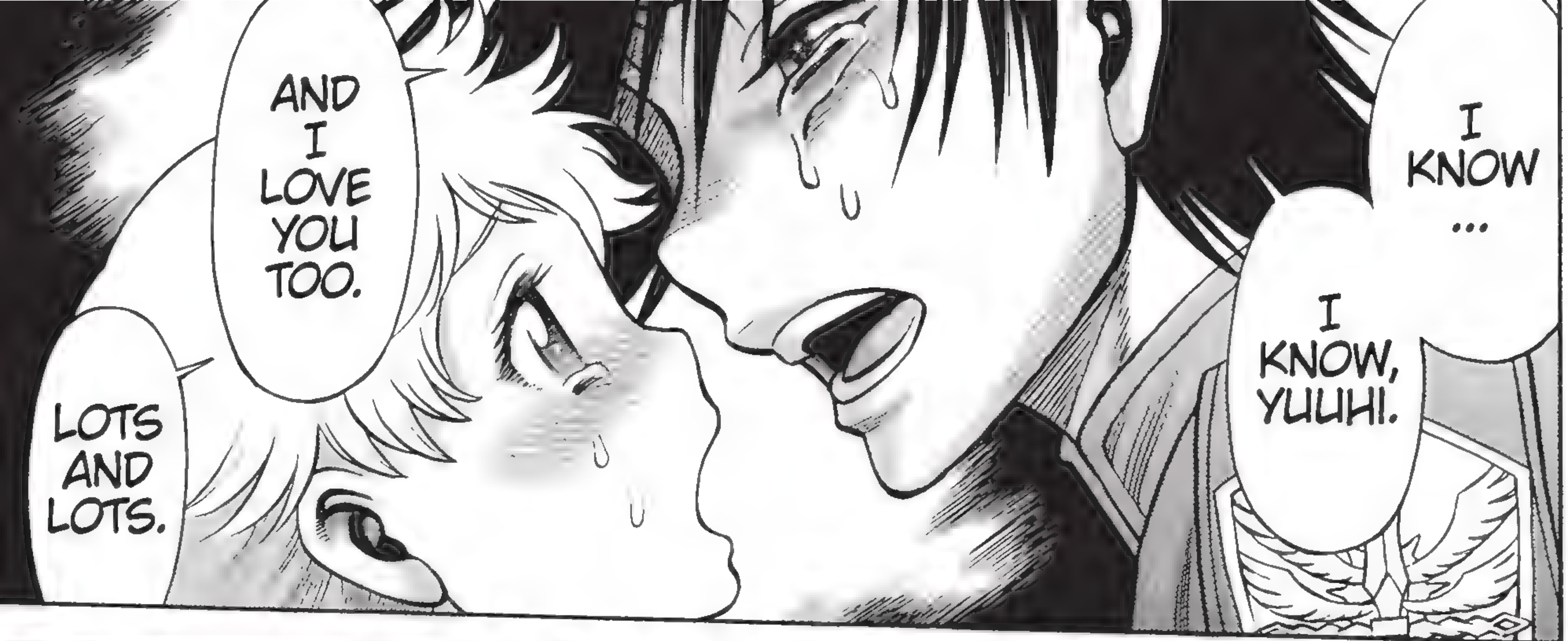


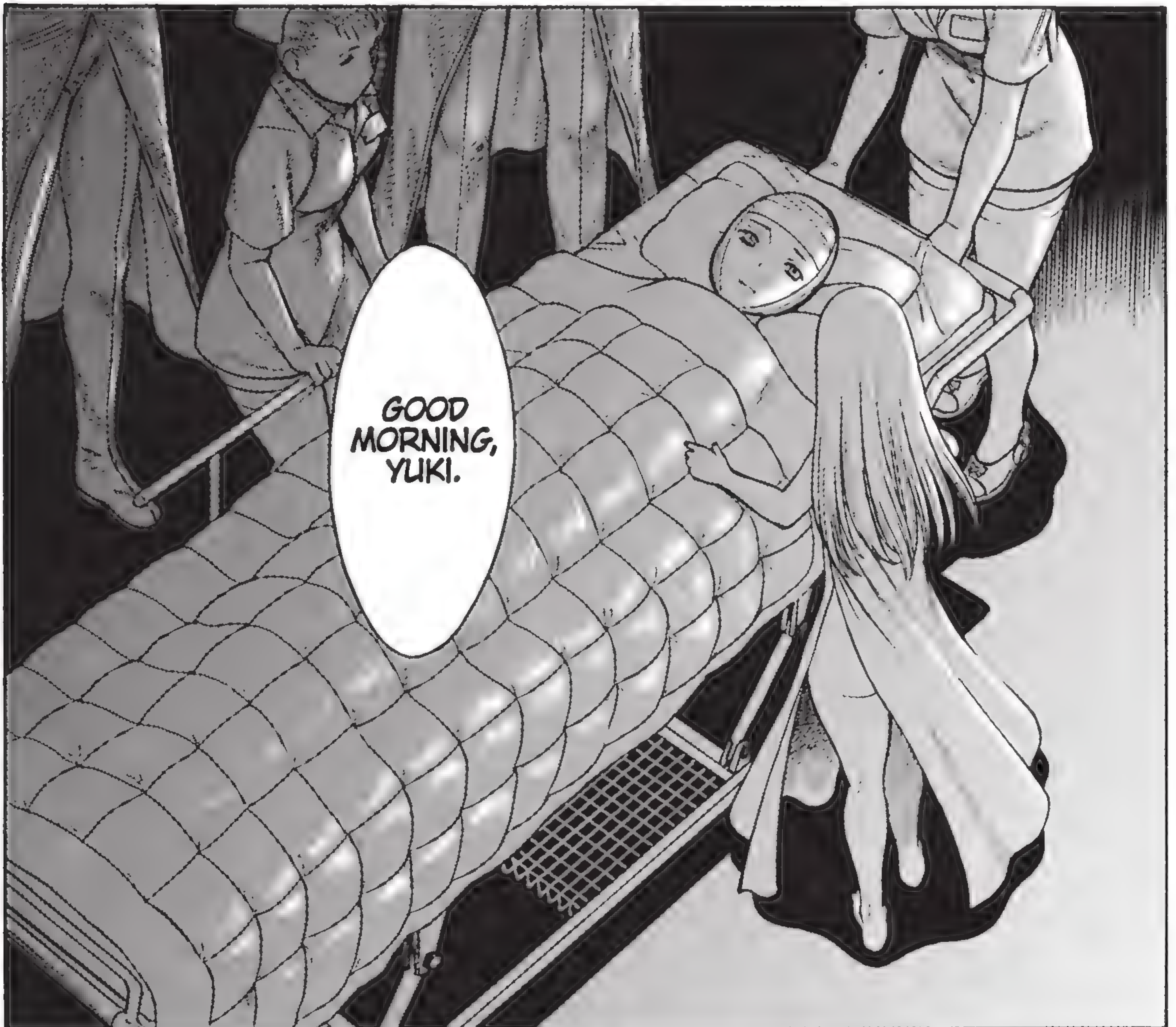
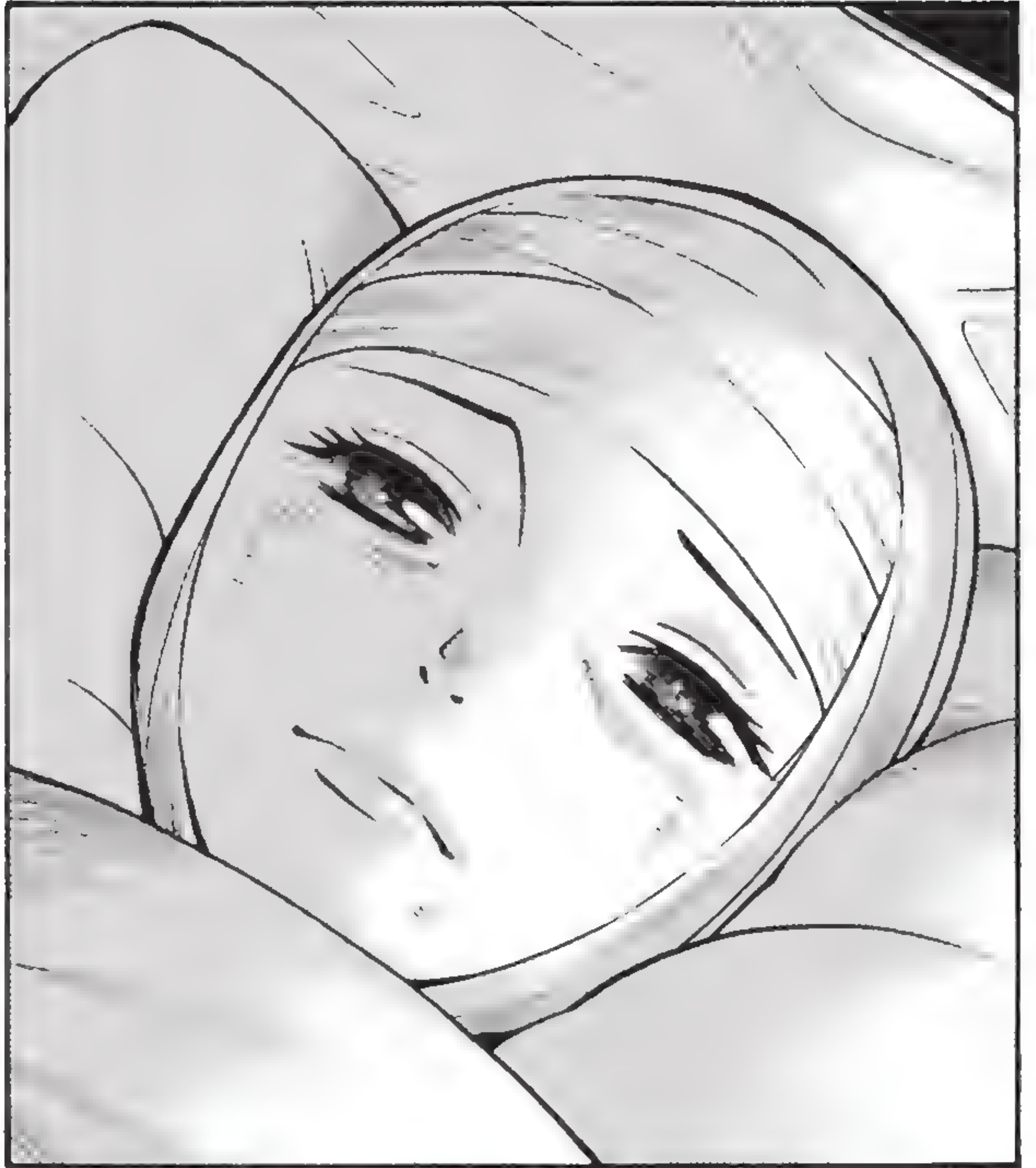
ANGIE!!!



ANGIE...







TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 9

STAFF

JUGGERNAUT

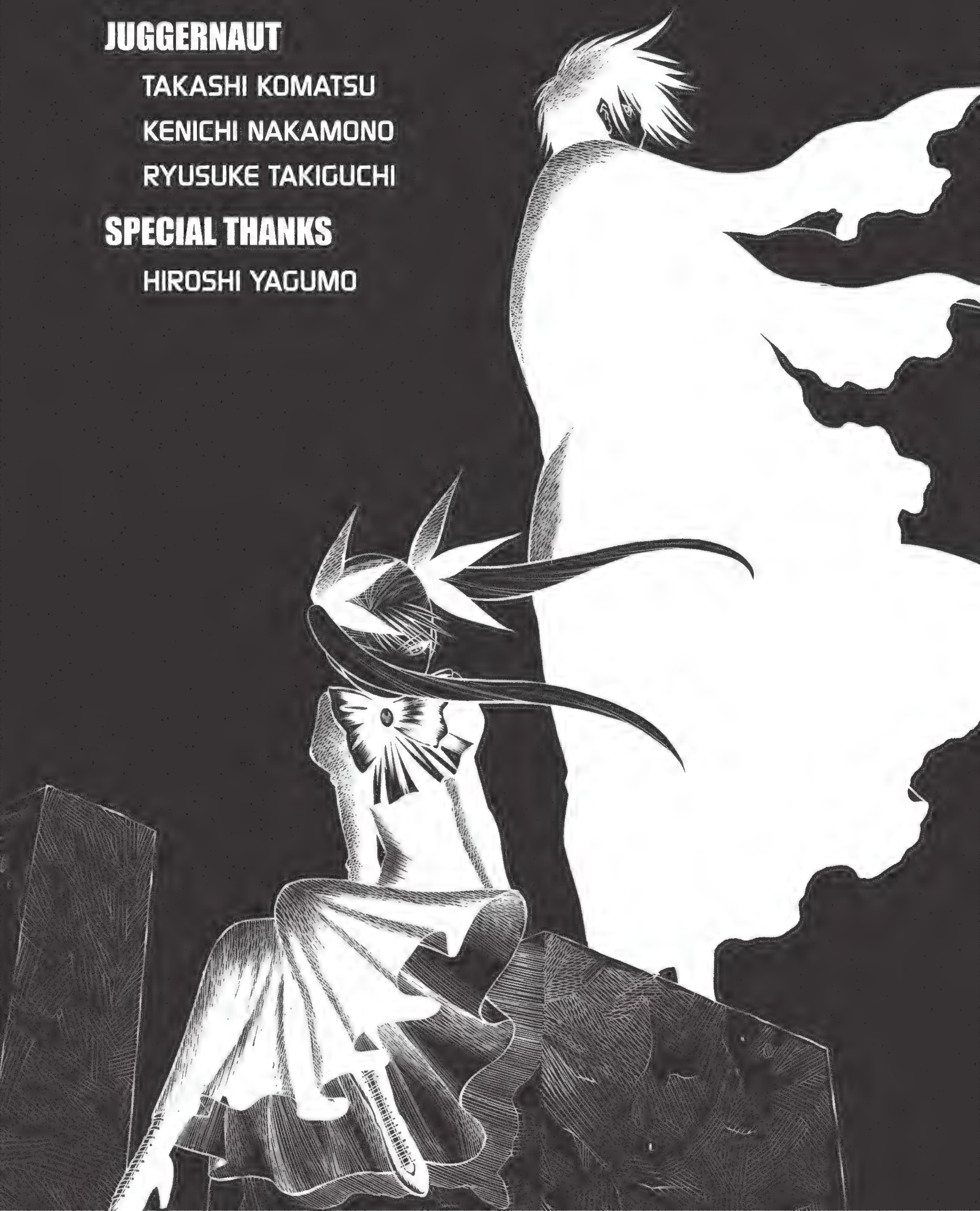
TAKASHI KOMATSU

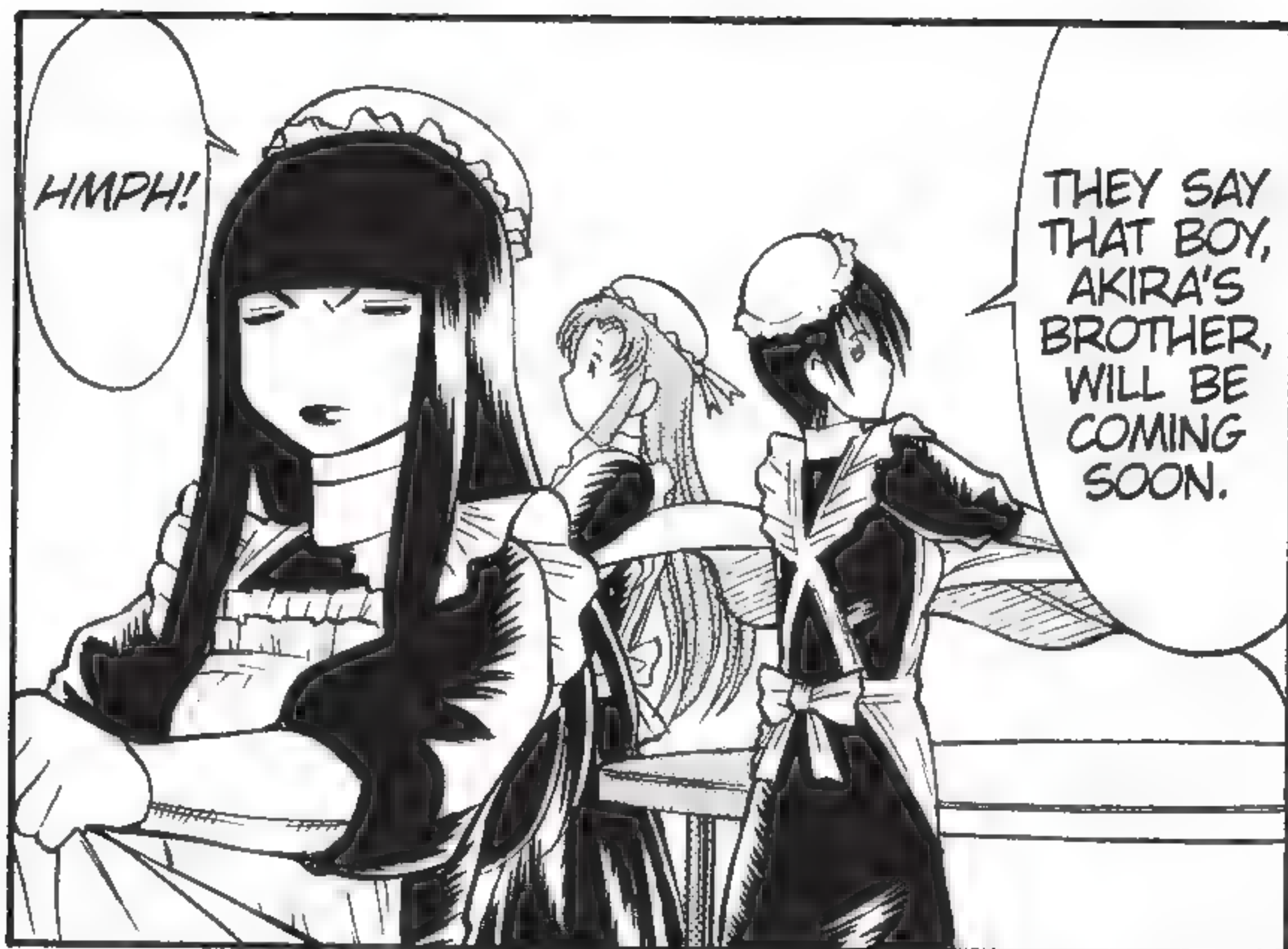
KENICHI NAKAMONO

RYUSUKE TAKIGUCHI

SPECIAL THANKS

HIROSHI YAGUMO





HMPH!

THEY SAY
THAT BOY,
AKIRA'S
BROTHER,
WILL BE
COMING
SOON.



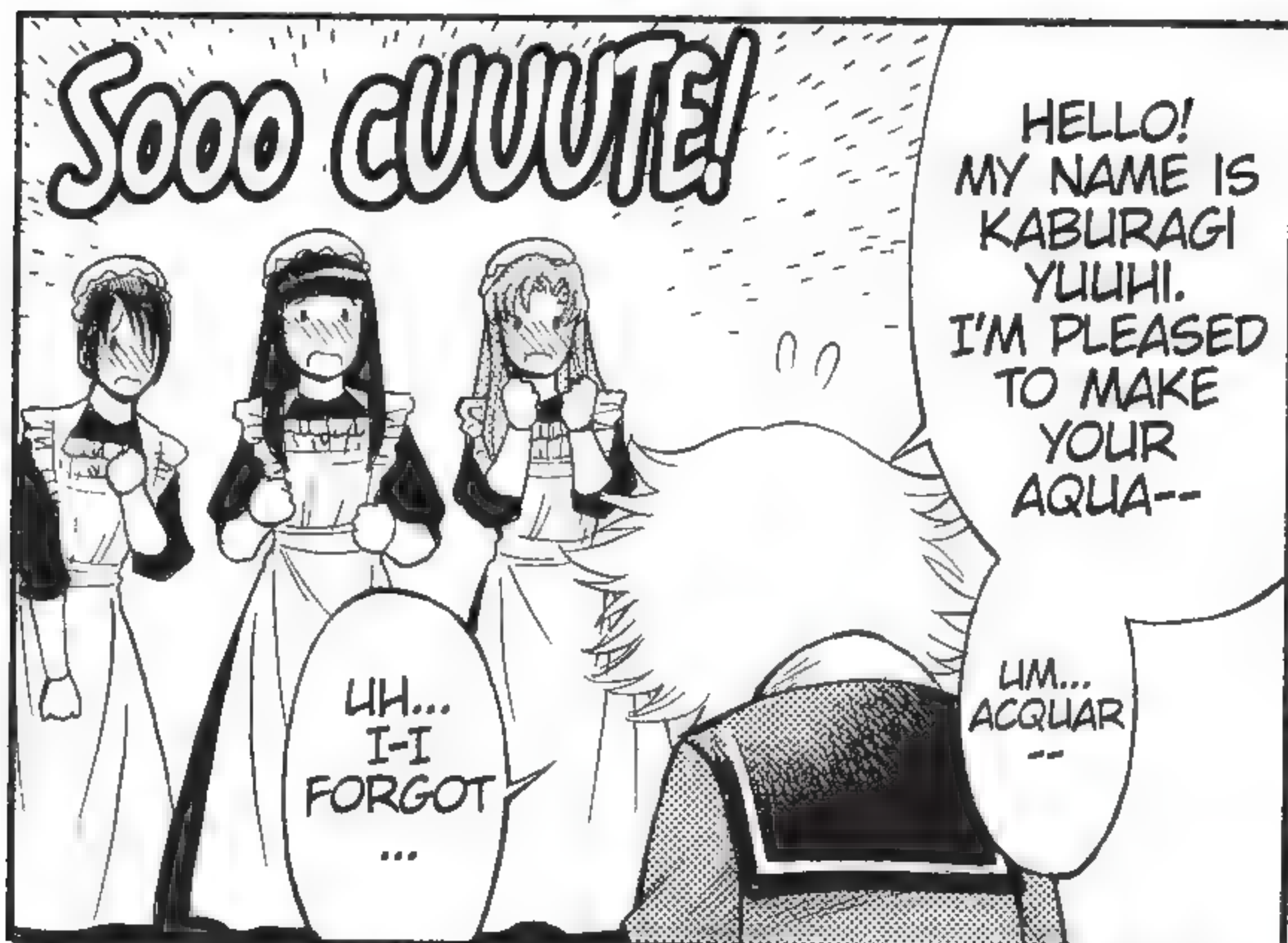
GIRLS,
COME
HERE
FOR A
MOMENT.

LIKE
WE NEED
ANOTHER!
NO DOUBT
THAT
BRAT'S
BROTHER
IS CRASS,
RUDE...



THIS IS
YUHI.

LET
ME
INTRO-
DUCE
YOU.



Sooo CUUUUTE!

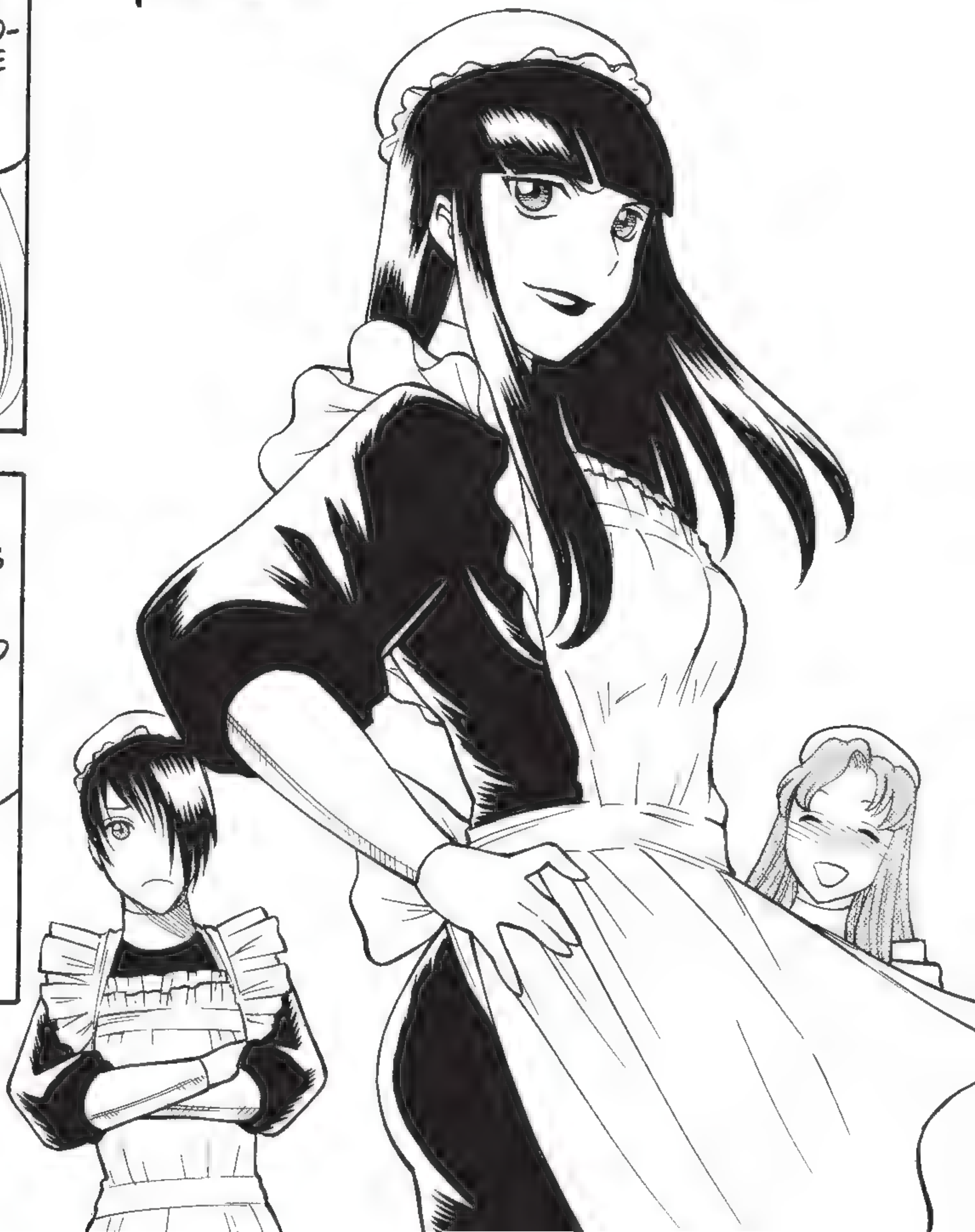
HELLO!
MY NAME IS
KABURAGI
YUHI.
I'M PLEASED
TO MAKE
YOUR
AQUA--

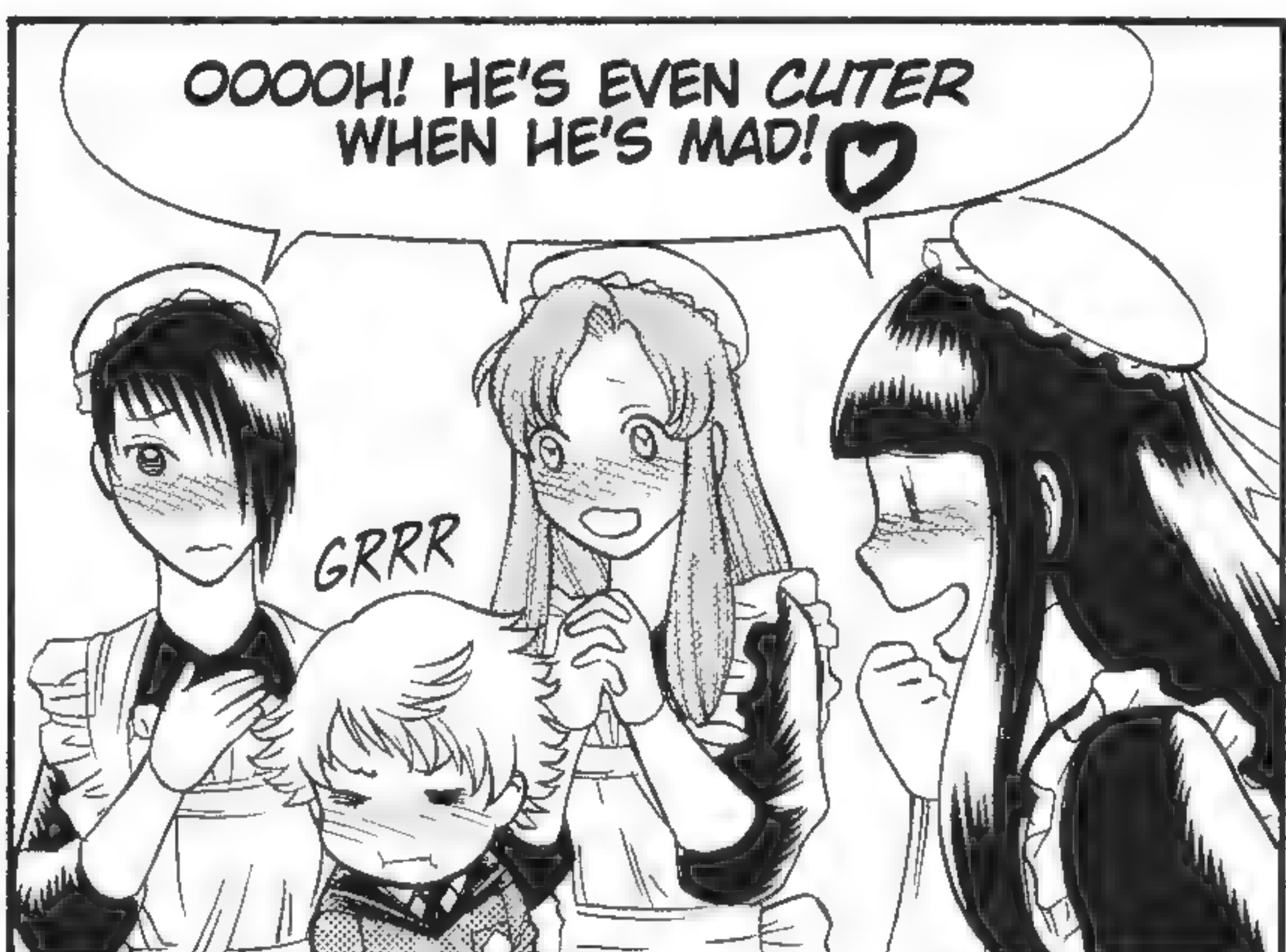
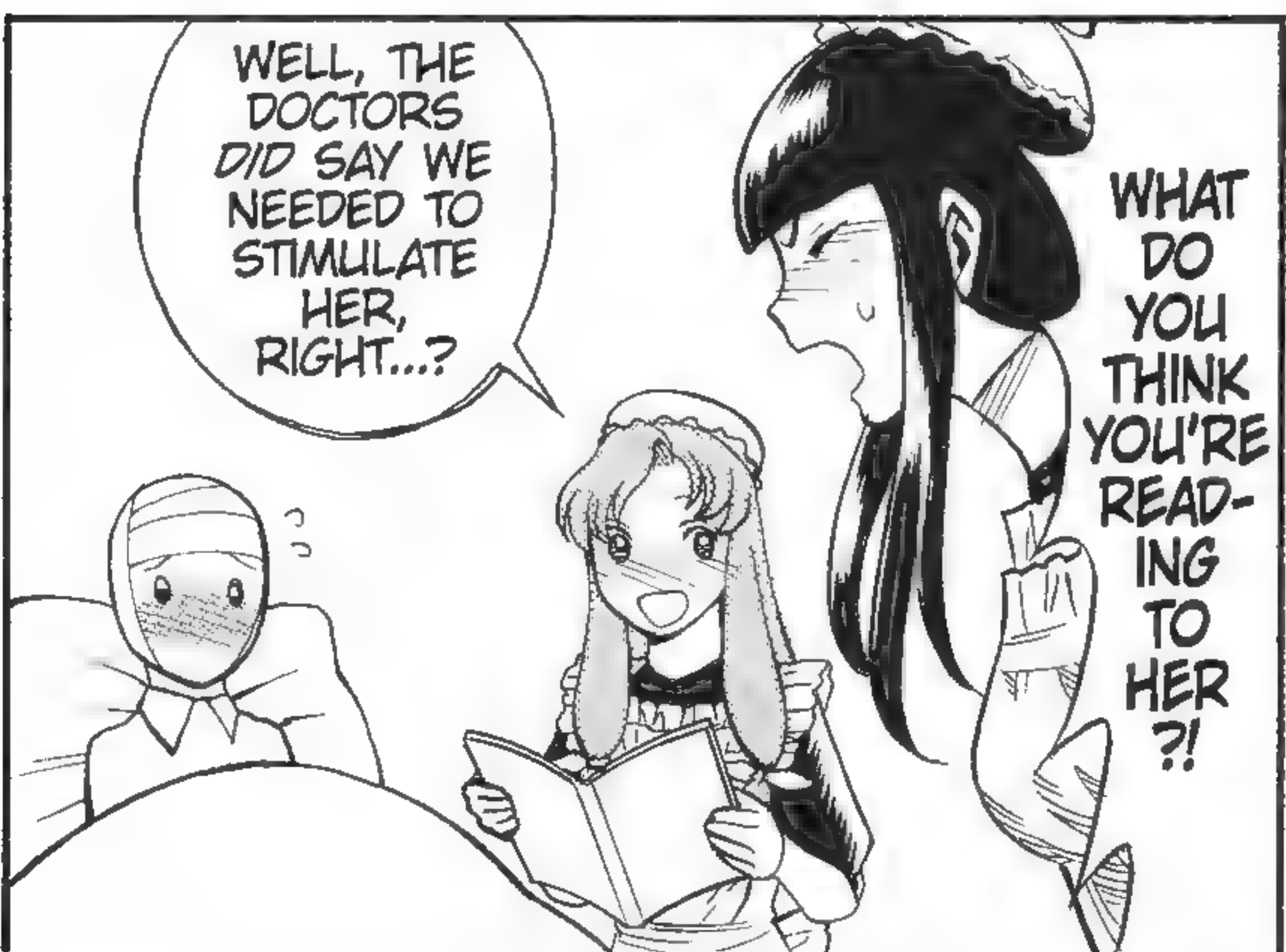
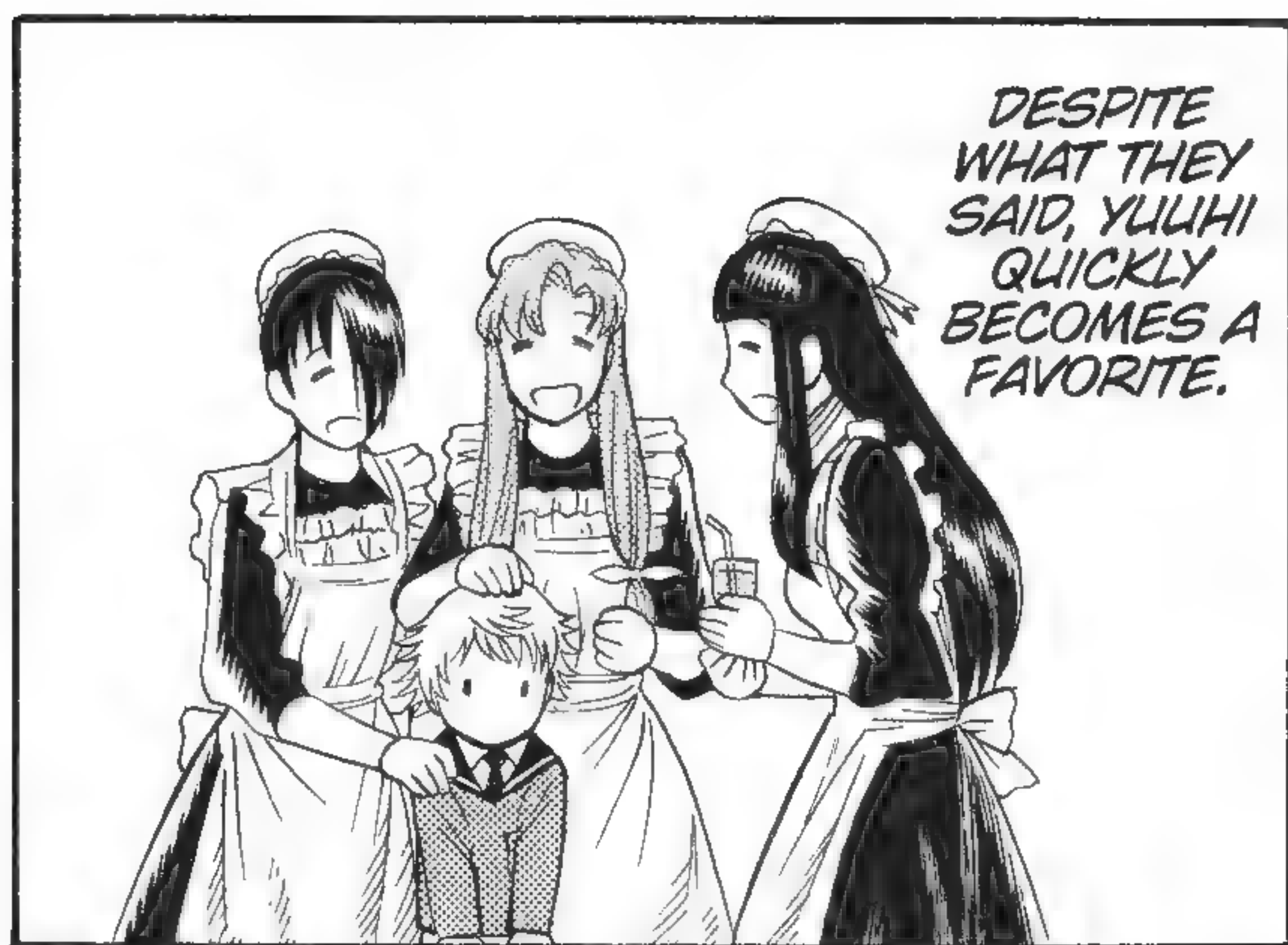
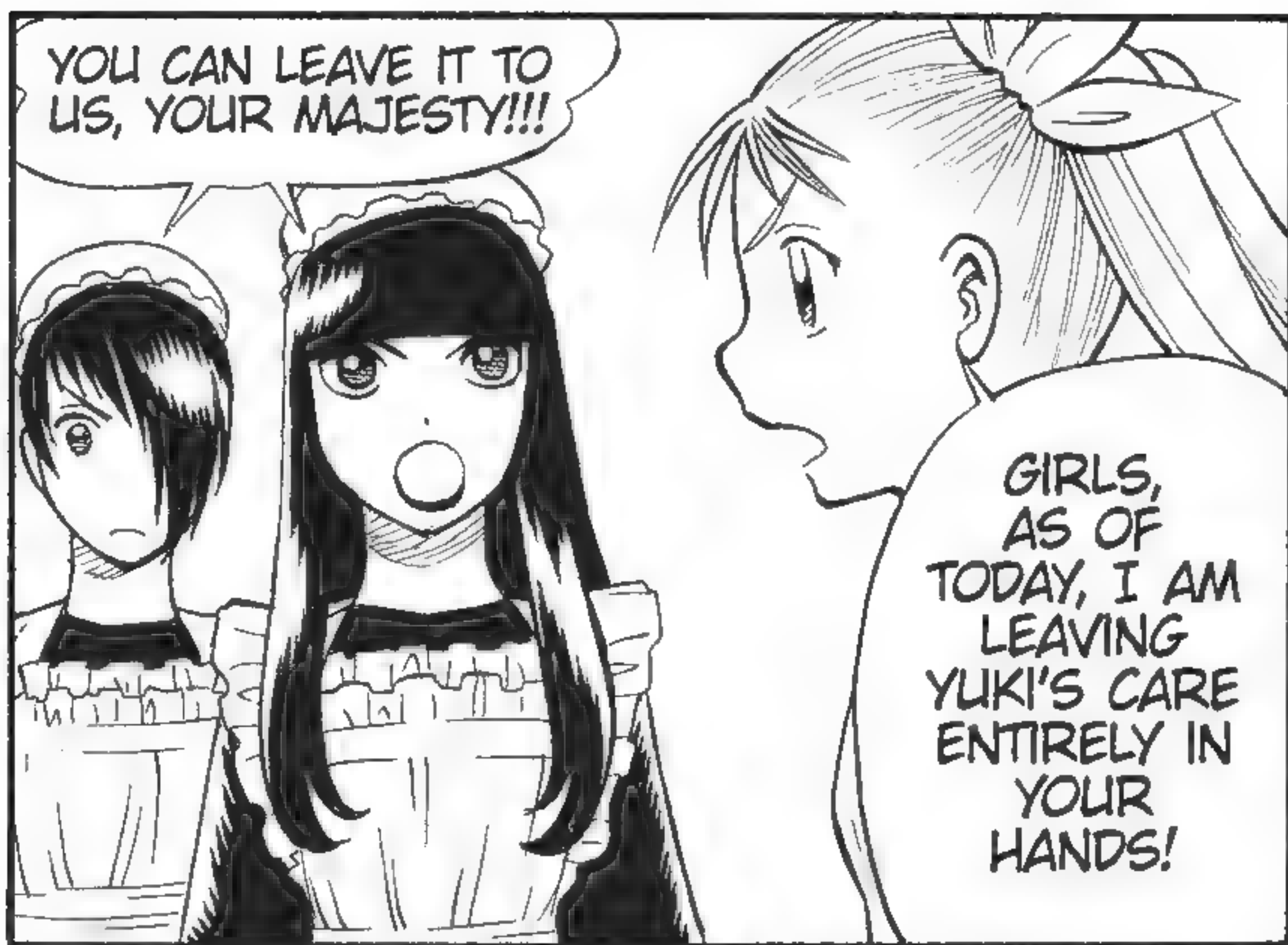
UH...
I-I
FORGOT
...

UM...
ACQUAR
--

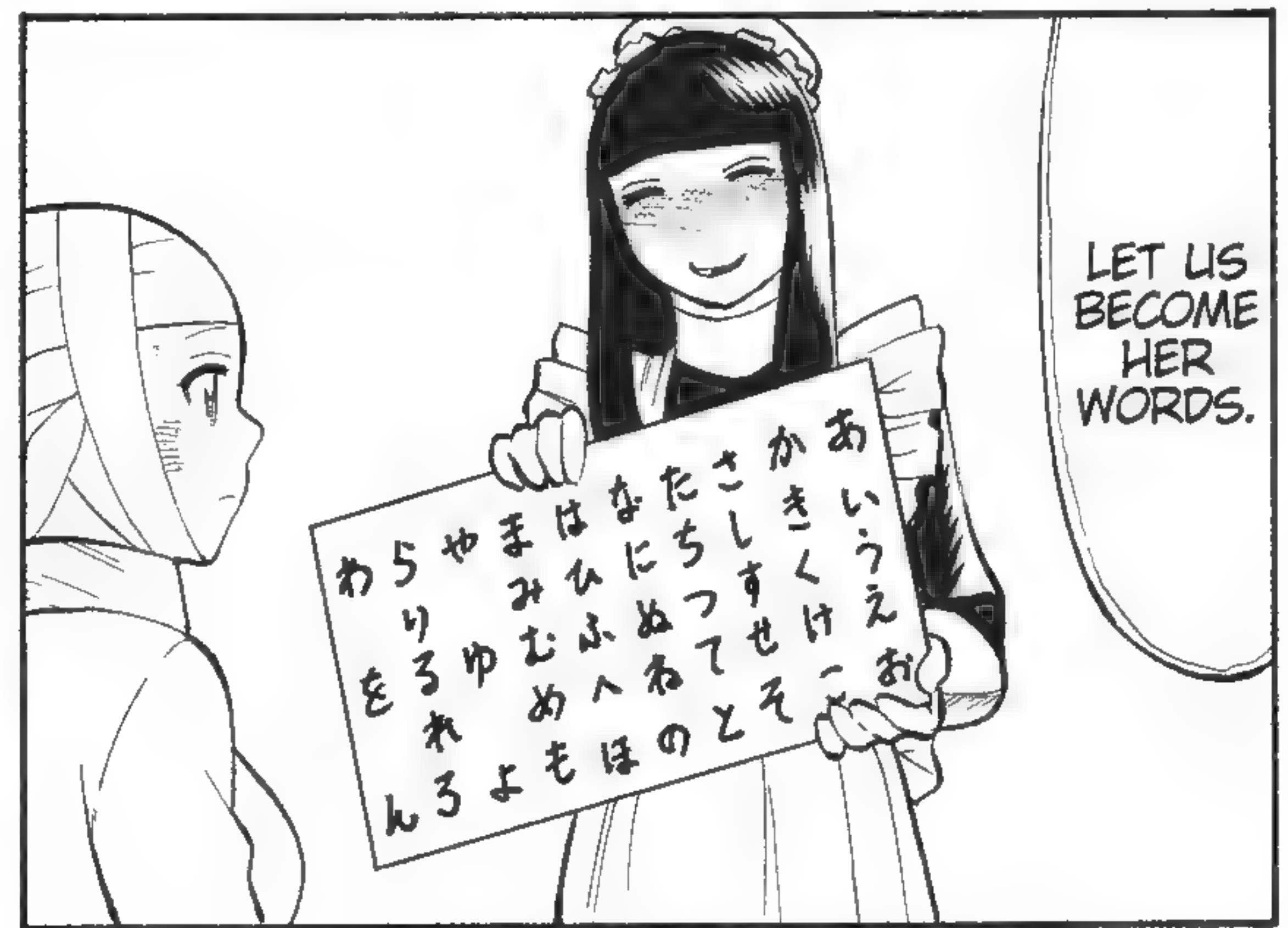
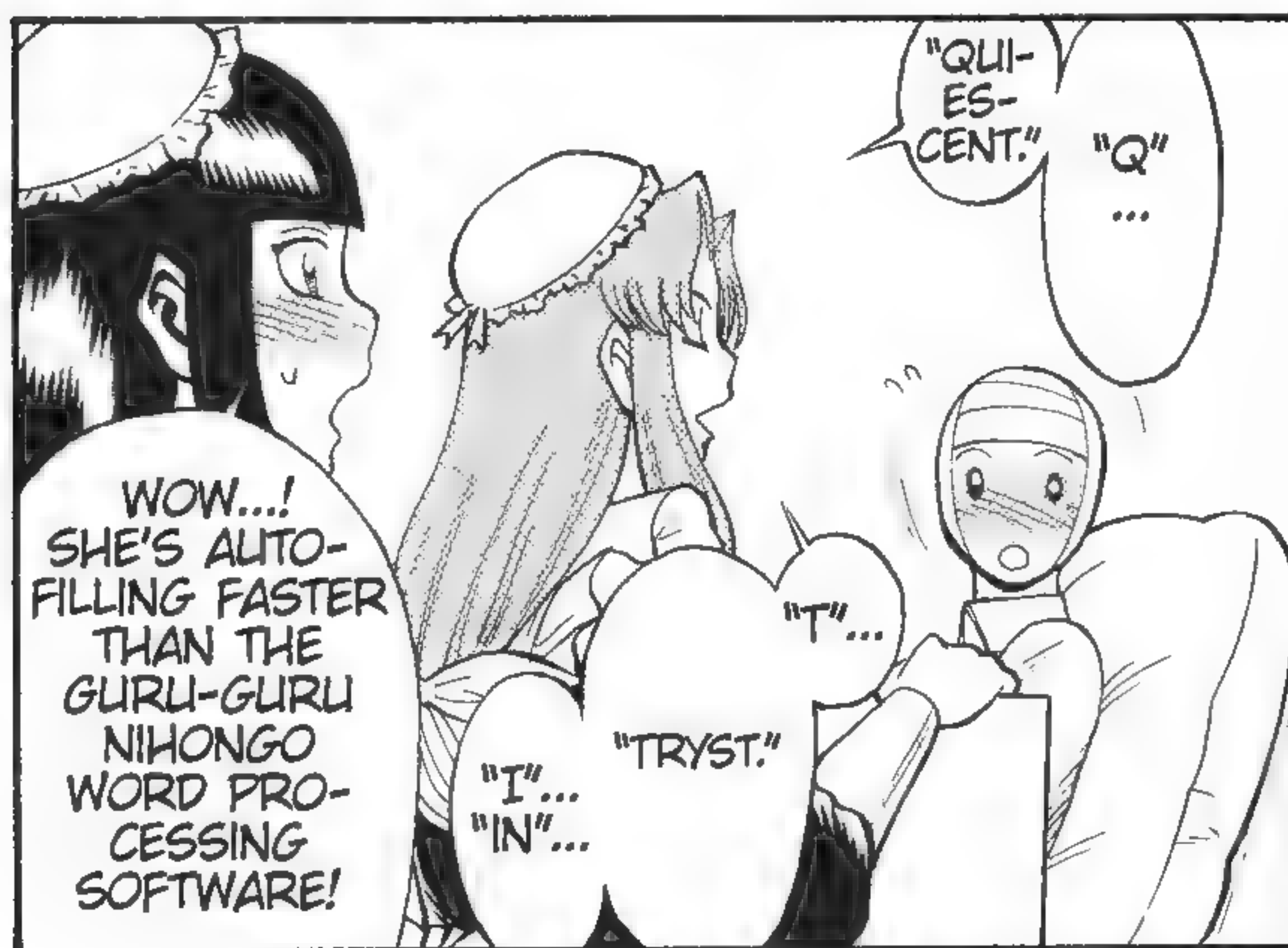
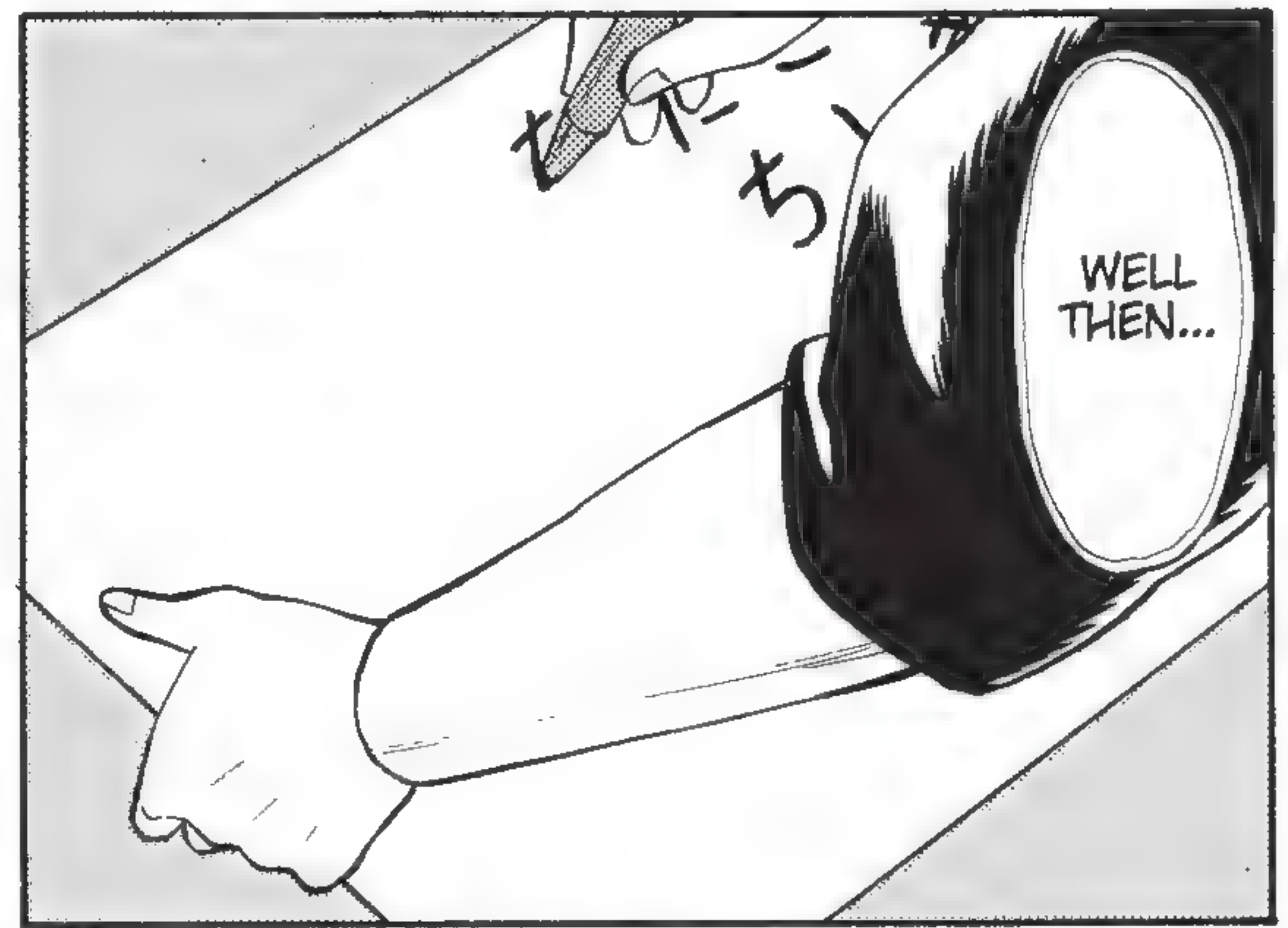
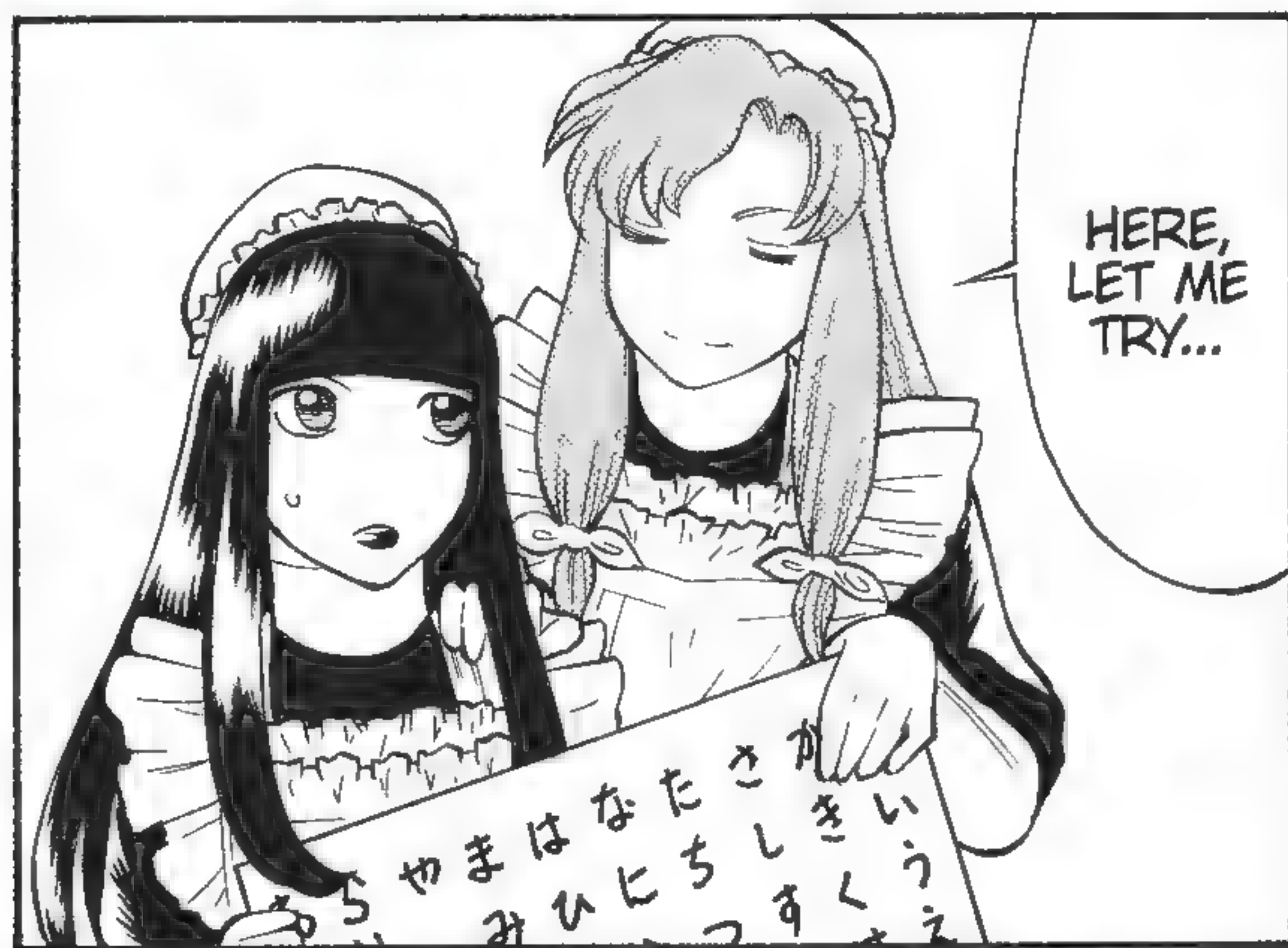
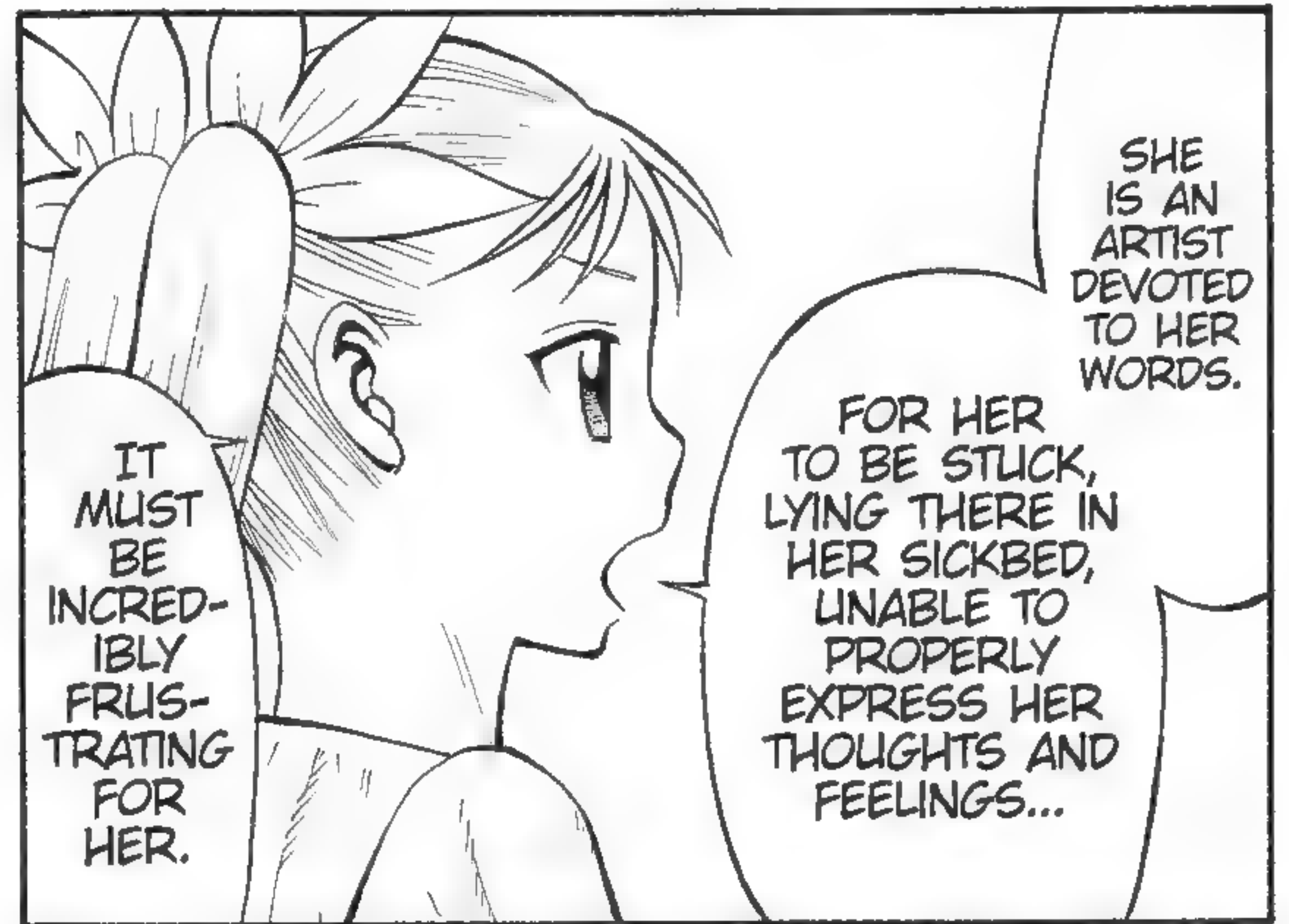
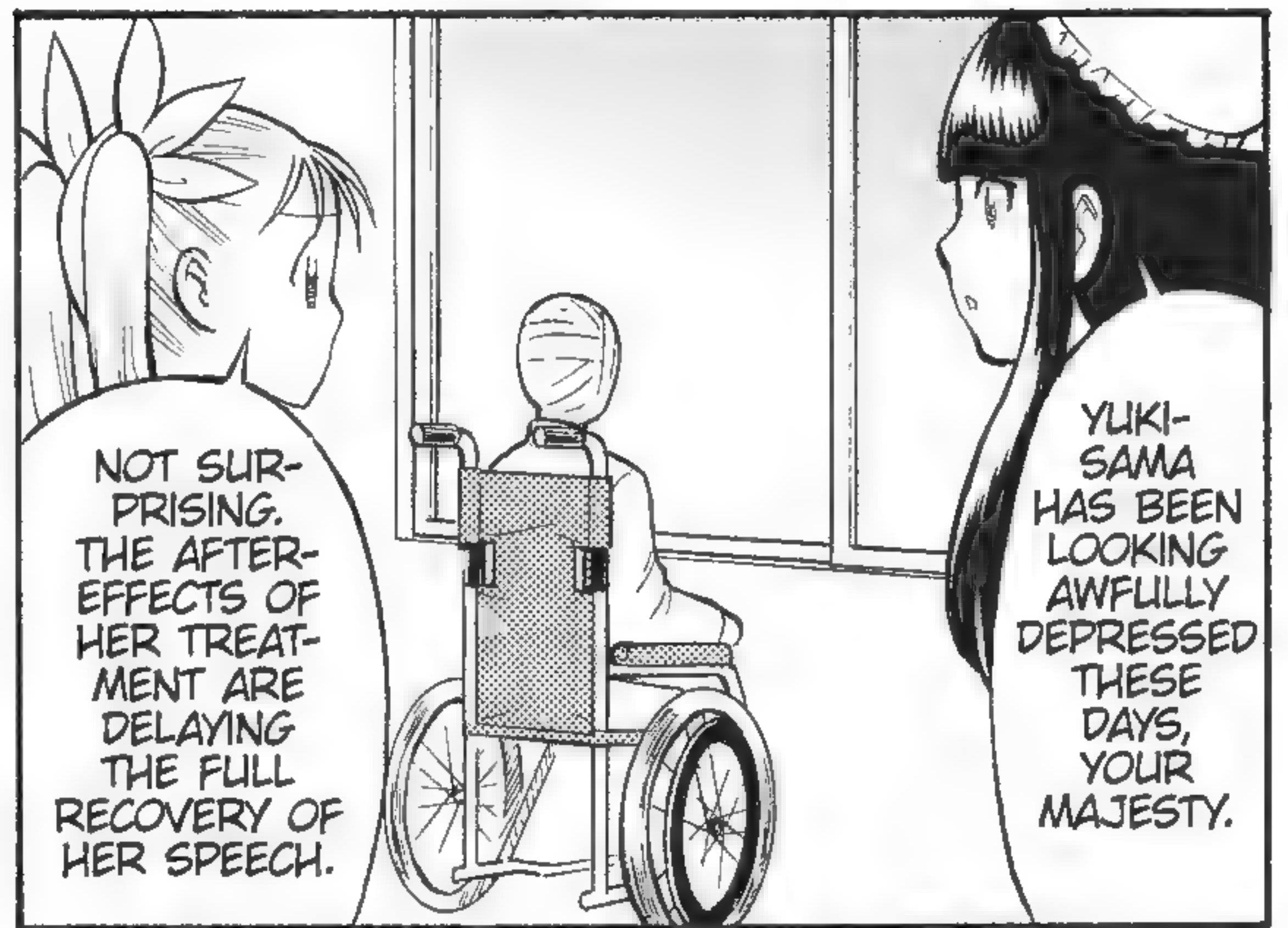
DANCE with the VAMPIRE MAID

YOU'LL SEE US IN THE ANIME TOO!!

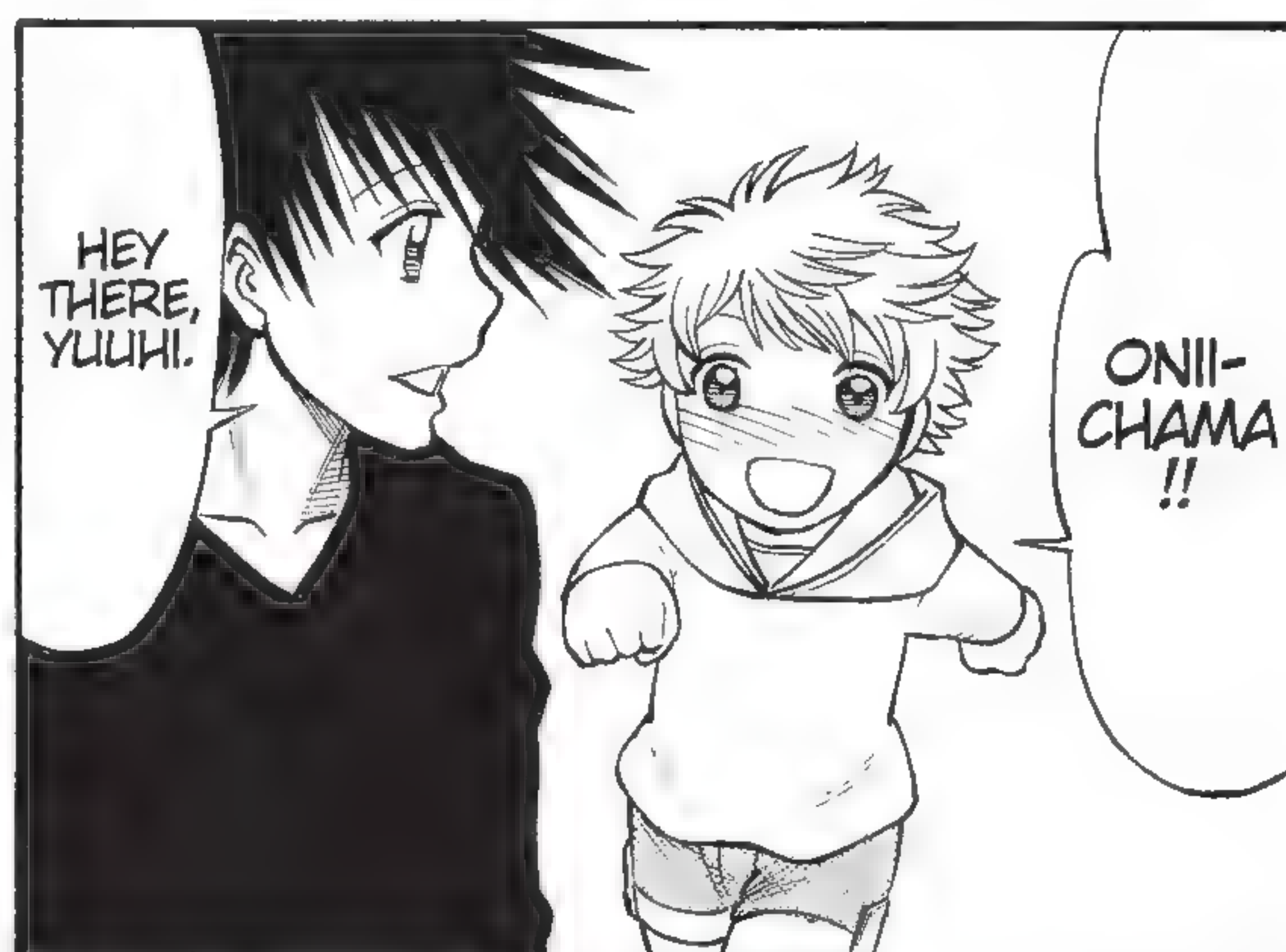
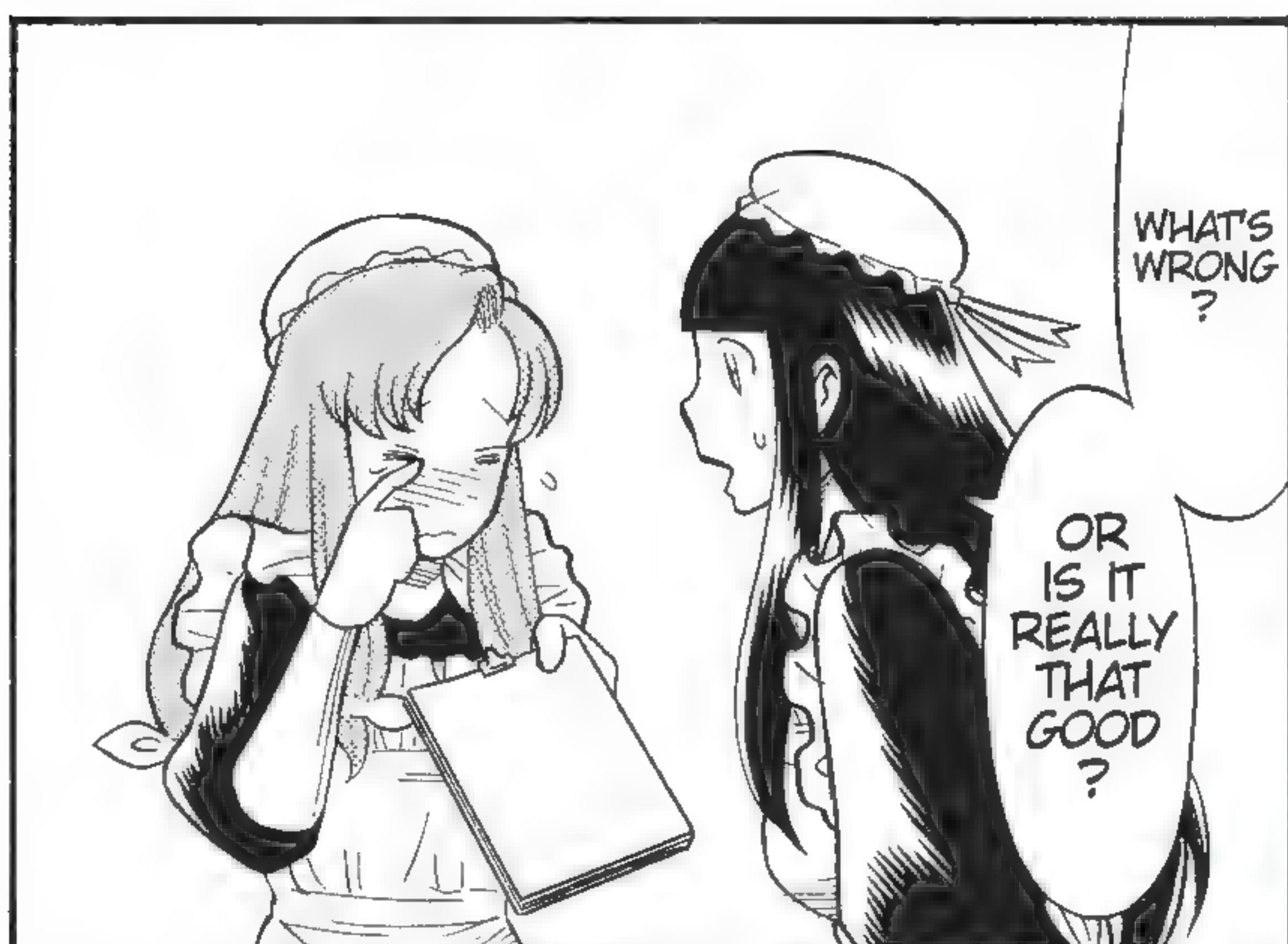




YEAH, THEY'RE HOPELESS...



IT'S THE ENTIRE HIRAGANA SYLLABARY!



CONTINUED IN VOLUME 9!



次卷予告

NEXT VOLUME PREVIEW

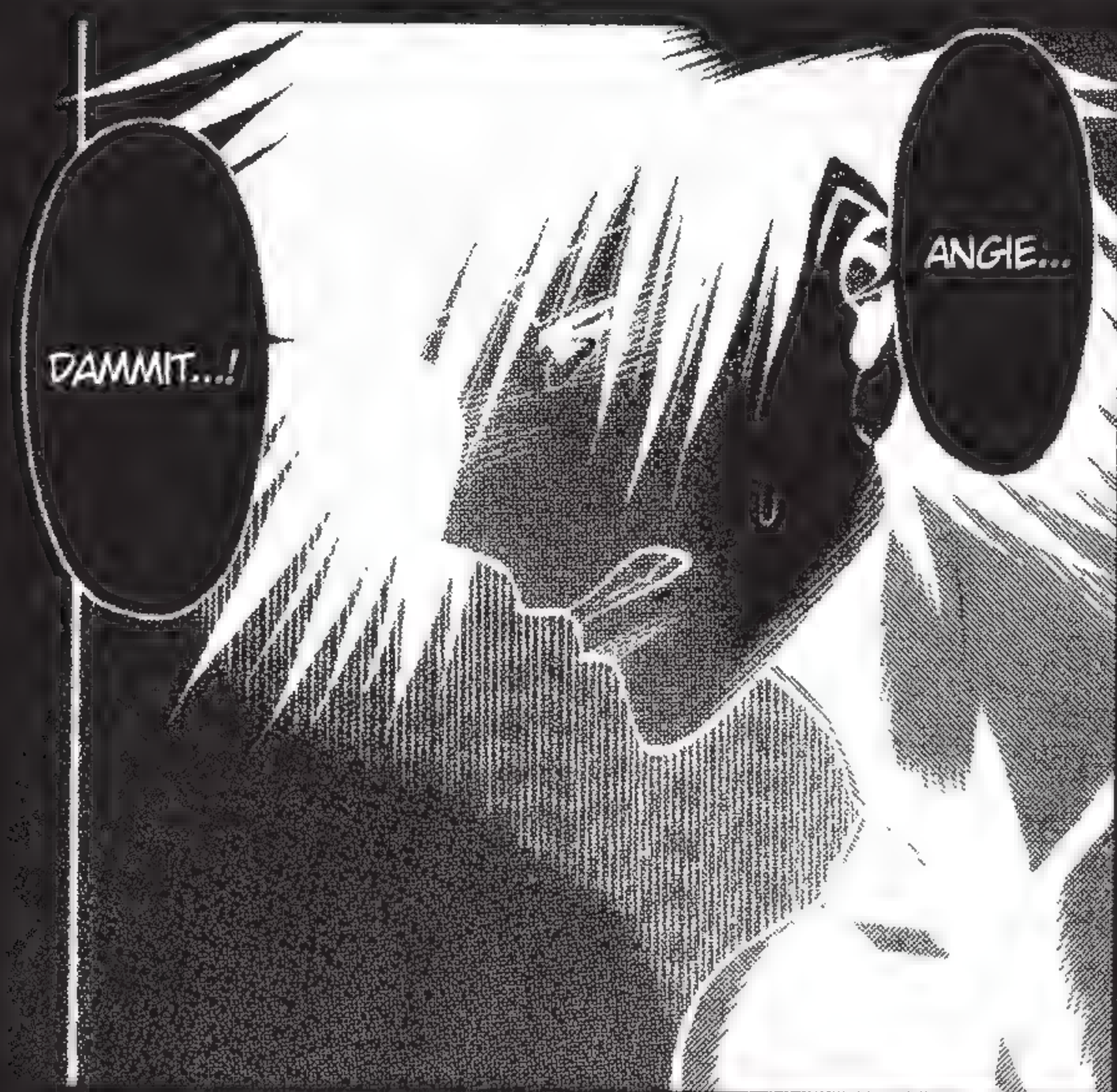


AHH!
YES,
THIS WILL
BE MORE
THAN
ADEQUATE.

THE PAIN OF UNFORGETTABLE REGRETS.
THE PEACE OF LONG-FORGOTTEN REST.
WOUNDS THAT WILL NOT HEAL, DESPITE
THE PASSAGE OF TIME. HAPPINESS TOO
EPHEMERAL TO FORGET, NO MATTER HOW
FLEETING THE MOMENT IN TIME. FATE ONCE
AGAIN CALLS TO THE UNFORGIVEN ONES.



IT FEELS
LIKE IT
HAS BEEN
FOREVER
SINCE WE
LAST GOT TO
SPEND TIME
TOGETHER
LIKE THIS.



COMING SOON!

睜 目 せ よ !

WATCH FOR IT!



THE SHIP WANDERS THE OCEANS OF THE WORLD, HIDING MISERY AND DISASTER IN THE DEPTHS OF ITS HOLD. NOW IT COMES TO THE BUND, READY TO DRAG THAT ROSY PARADISE ONTO A VOYAGE INTO HELL--ONE THAT NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO STOP.

EVEN THE WINTER TRAGEDY AKIRA MET WITH TWO YEARS AGO...



YOU'LL BECOME MUCH MORE BEAUTIFUL.

THE ENEMIES OF THE BUND FINALLY UNLEASH THEIR HATRED, STAGING A FULL ASSAULT AND TRIGGERING ALL-OUT WAR ON THE ISLAND! WILL THE BUND BE ABLE TO SURVIVE?!

MAY COME TO SHOW US A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PICTURE.

I KNOW YOU WILL.

DAMMIT!

DANCE IN THE VAMPIRE BUND VOLUME 9

HONORIFICS

To ensure that all character relationships appear as they were originally intended, all character names have been kept in their original Japanese name order with family name first and given name second. For copyright reasons, creator names appear in standard English name order.

In addition to preserving the original Japanese name order, Seven Seas is committed to ensuring that honorifics—polite speech that indicates a person's status or relationship towards another individual—are retained within this book. Politeness is an integral facet of Japanese culture, and we believe that maintaining honorifics in our translations helps bring out the same character nuances as seen in the original work.

The following are some of the more common honorifics you may come across while reading this and other books:

-san – The most common of all honorifics, it is an all-purpose suffix that can be used in any situation where politeness is expected. Generally seen as the equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs., etc.

-sama – This suffix is one level higher than “-san” and is used to confer great respect upon an individual.

-kun – This suffix is commonly used at the end of boys' names to express either familiarity or endearment. It can also be used when addressing someone younger than oneself or of a lower status.

-chan – Another common honorific. This suffix is mainly used to express endearment towards girls, but can also be used when referring to little boys or even pets. Couples are also known to use the term amongst each other to convey a sense of cuteness and intimacy.

Sempai – This title is used towards one's senior or “superior” in a particular group or organization. “Sempai” is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to upperclassmen as “sempai,” though it is also commonly said by employees when addressing fellow employees who hold seniority in the workplace.

Sensei – Literally meaning “one who has come before,” this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

Oniisan – This title literally means “big brother.” First and foremost, it is used by younger siblings towards older male siblings. It can be used by itself or attached to a person’s name as a suffix (*niisan*). It is often used by a younger person toward an older person unrelated by blood, but as a sign of respect. Other forms include the informal “oniichan” and the more respectful “oniisama.”

Oneesan – This title is the opposite of “oniisan” and means “big sister.” Other forms include the informal “oneechan” and the more respectful “oneesama.”

TRANSLATION NOTES

26.4

The suffix “-chama” is a combination of “-chan” and “-sama.” It indicates closeness while retaining some formality, and is generally used by young children of well-to-do families to refer to beloved older siblings.

66.1

“The Great Purge” (1936-1938) was a series of political purges in the USSR, organized by Stalin with the intent of cleansing the Communist Party of any dissenters. Hundreds of thousands of Communist Party officials, Red Army officials, peasants, minorities and members of the intelligentsia were convicted of exaggerated or entirely faked charges and were either summarily executed or shipped off to gulags, prisons in remote areas of the USSR.

87.1

Manga Kissa are coffee shops that keep small libraries of manga for patrons to read. Nowadays, many also offer internet access for a fee.





Dance in the Vampire Bund

Volume 8

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DANCE IN THE VAMPIRE BUND VOL. 8

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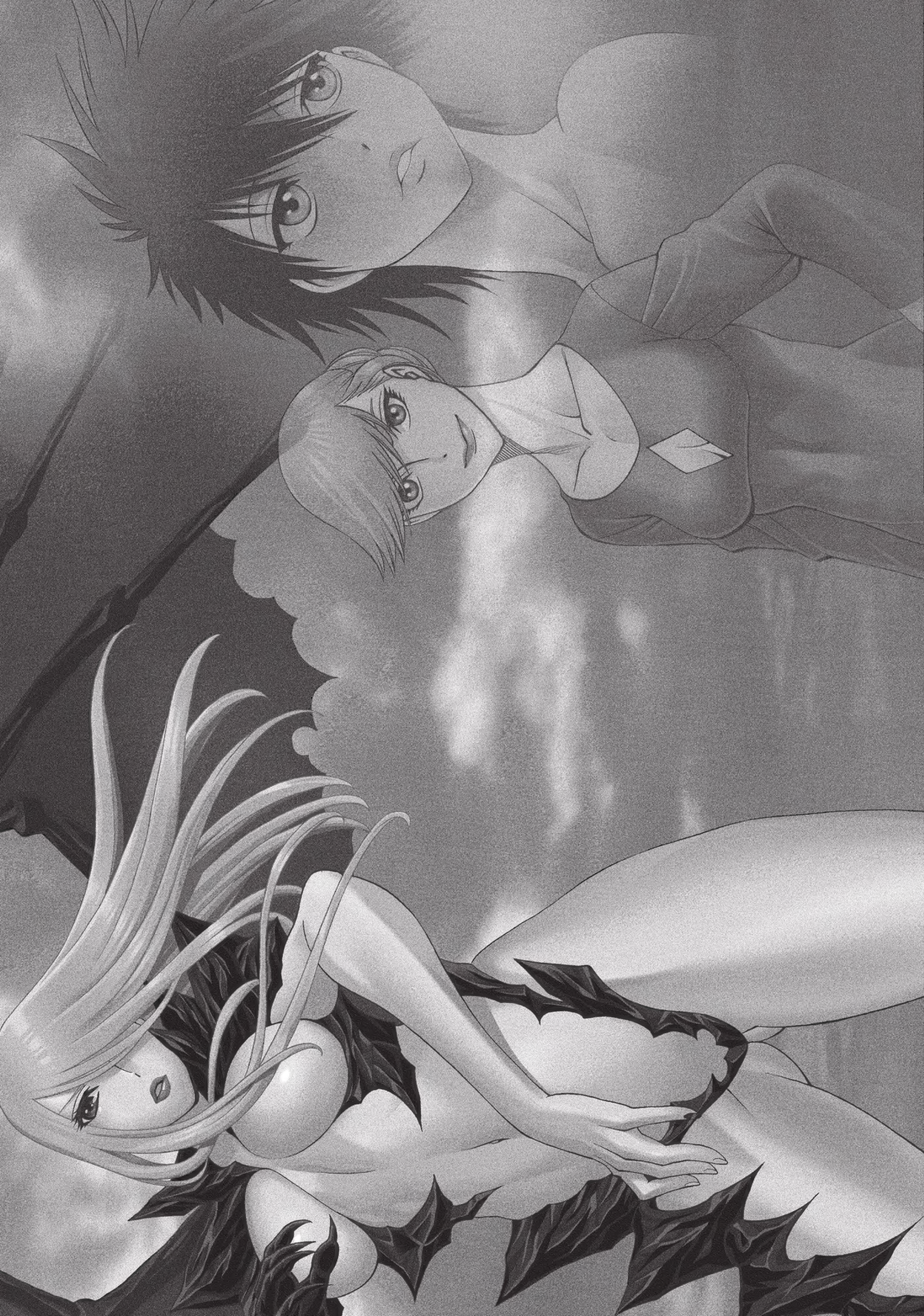


ISBN: 978-1-934876-81-7

Printed in Canada

First printing: September 2010

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THE END

YOU'RE READING THE WRONG WAY

This is the last page of
Dance in the Vampire Bund
Volume 8



This book reads from right to left, Japanese style. To read from the beginning, flip the book over to the other side, start with the top right panel, and take it from there.

If this is your first time reading manga, just follow the diagram. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get used to it! Have fun!

